



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Statement from Her Excellency the Governor

It is with regret that I announce that the Commissioner of the Royal Cayman Islands Police Service, Mr David Baines OBE, will leave his post at the end of May 2016, one year before the end of his current contract. The recent barrage of unfair criticism and defamatory comments has undermined the Commissioner's authority to the extent that his leadership of the RCIPS is no longer tenable.

The Commissioner continues to have my support and will do so until he leaves his post. On his departure, Deputy Commissioner Anthony Ennis will be the Acting Commissioner of the RCIPS until a new Commissioner is appointed. The recruitment process for this post will begin shortly.

I would like to take this opportunity to recognise the dedicated service that Commissioner Baines has given to the Cayman Islands over the last seven years. Crime statistics show that over this period the Cayman Islands have remained amongst the safest communities in the Caribbean. In addition to leading the RCIPS with professionalism, Commissioner Baines has made a significant contribution to policing in the wider Caribbean through his chairmanship of the Caribbean Chiefs of Police group and his leadership of work on firearms and gun crime for all of the Caribbean Overseas Territories.

Ensuring the security of the Cayman Islands is a responsibility we all share. The RCIPS needs and deserves the support of our community to do their vital work.

Notes to Editors.

The appointment of the Commissioner of the RCIPS is the responsibility of the Governor. The budget for the RCIPS is provided by the Cayman Islands Government.

Commissioner Baines took up his post in June 2009.

Commissioner Baines will be paid what he is entitled to under his contract.

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