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COMMERCIAL REGISTRY AND BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP REGISTRATION SYSTEM ACT, 2022

# COMMERCIAL REGISTRY AND BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP REGISTRATION SYSTEM (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS, 2025

Regulations made by the Governor under section 50 of the Commercial Registry and Beneficial Ownership Registration System Act, 2022.

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# COMMERCIAL REGISTRY AND BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP REGISTRATION SYSTEM (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS, 2025

#### Interpretation

1. In these Regulations, "Regulations" means the Commercial Registry and Beneficial Ownership Registration System Regulations, 2022.

#### Amendment of section 1

- **2.** Section 1 of the Regulations is amended—
  - (a) in the definition of "CDD information", by deleting "the Schedule" and substituting "Schedule 1"; and
  - (b) by inserting the following definitions in the appropriate alphabetical order—
    - ""disclosable beneficial ownership information" in relation to an Anguilla company means the information specified in section 28(2)(a), (b) or (c) of the Act;" and
    - ""journalism" means the work of collecting, writing, and publishing news stories and articles in newspapers, magazines and websites or preparing news to be broadcast;".

#### Amendment of section 26

3. The Regulations are amended in subsections (2) and (5) of section 26, by deleting "registrable person" wherever those words appear, and substituting "registrable person or the senior managing official".

#### Amendment of section 26A

- **4.** The Regulations are amended in section 26A—
  - (a) by deleting "registrable persons" and substituting "registrable persons or the senior managing official"; and
  - (b) by deleting "registrable person" and substituting "registrable person or the senior managing official".

#### Amendment of heading to Division 3

**5.** The Regulations are amended by deleting the heading to Division 3 and substituting "Disclosure to Persons with a Legitimate Interest".

#### Deletion and substitution of sections 30 and 31

**6.** The Regulations are amended by deleting sections 30 and 31 and substituting the following—

#### "Criteria for determining a legitimate interest

- **30.** A person has a legitimate interest in inspecting disclosable beneficial ownership information in relation to an Anguilla company, if the person is a member of the public who—
  - (a) is—
    - engaged in journalism on a regular or frequent basis or bona fide academic research;

- (ii) acting on behalf of a civil society organisation whose purpose includes the prevention or combating of money-laundering, its predicate offences or terrorist financing; or
- (iii) is seeking that information in the context of a potential or actual business relationship or transaction with the Anguilla company concerned; and
- (b) has a legitimate interest in that disclosable beneficial ownership information for the purpose of preventing, detecting, investigating, combating or prosecuting money laundering or its predicate offences or terrorist financing.".

#### Application to the Commission for determination that a person has a legitimate interest

- 31.(1) A person may apply to the Commission for a determination that the person has a legitimate interest in inspecting disclosable beneficial ownership information relating to an Anguilla company.
  - (2) An application under subsection (1) must be accompanied by—
    - (a) in the case of an application by a person referred to in section 30(a)(i) or (ii), evidence-
      - (i) of the applicant's credentials and identity;
      - (ii) in the case of a person acting on behalf of a civil society organisation, that the purposes of the civil society organisation include the prevention or combating of money-laundering, its predicate offences or terrorism financing;
    - (b) in the case of an application by a person referred to in section 30(a)(iii), evidence—
      - (i) of the applicant's identity;
      - (ii) that the applicant is seeking to inspect the disclosable beneficial ownership information in relation to the Anguilla company in the context of an actual or potential business relationship or transaction with the Anguilla company about which the disclosable beneficial ownership information is sought;
      - (iii) of the nature of the actual or potential business relationship or transaction with the Anguilla company about which the disclosable beneficial ownership information is sought; and
    - (c) in the case of every application—
      - (i) evidence that the disclosable beneficial ownership information sought by the applicant is sought for a purpose specified in section 30(b);
      - (ii) any other documents or information that the applicant relies on in support of the application;
  - (3) The Commission may—
    - (a) require an applicant to provide it with any documents, information and evidence, in addition to that specified in subsection (2), that it reasonably requires to determine the application;
    - (b) require any documents and information provided to be verified in such manner as it may specify.

- (4) If, before the determination by the Commission of an application—
  - (a) there is a material change in any information or documentation provided by the applicant to the Commission in connection with the application; or
  - (b) the applicant discovers that any information or documentation provided is incomplete, inaccurate or misleading;

the applicant must give the Commission immediate written details of the change or of the incomplete, inaccurate or misleading information or documentation.

(5) An applicant may submit an application for a determination that the person has a legitimate interest with respect to more than one Anguilla company, if the Anguilla companies are alleged to be involved together in money laundering or any of its predicate offences or terrorist financing.

## **Determination of application**

- **31A.** (1) If the Commission is satisfied that the applicant satisfies the applicable criteria specified in section 30, it may determine that the applicant has a legitimate interest in the inspection of the beneficial ownership information sought to be disclosed in relation to Anguilla company to which the application relates.
- (2) If the Commission determines that the applicant has a legitimate interest in the inspection of disclosable beneficial ownership information, it shall, within seven calendar days after making the determination, provide the applicant with a written notice stating that the applicant has a legitimate interest in the inspection of disclosable beneficial information relating to the Anguilla company or companies specified in the notice.
- (3) If the Commission determines that the applicant does not have a legitimate interest in the inspection of disclosable beneficial ownership information in relation to the Anguilla company or companies specified in the application, it shall, it shall, within seven calendar days after making the determination, provide the applicant with a written notice of refusal and specify the reasons for the refusal.

#### Section 32 moved to Part 5

7. Section 32 of the Regulations is deleted from Part 4 of the Regulations and inserted in Part 5, immediately before section 33.

#### Insertion of section 33A

**8.** The Act is amended by inserting the following after section 33—

# "Maintenance of records by Commission

- **33A.** (1) The Commission shall maintain records of—
  - (a) each application made under—
    - (i) section 29 of the Act; and
    - (ii) section 31 of these Regulations,

together with the information and documents provided in support of the application; and

(b) the Commission's decision in respect of each application together, where appropriate, with the reasons for the decision.

- (2) The Commission shall assign a file number to each application referred to in subsection (1)(a).
- (3) Section 42A of the Act applies to the records maintained under this section with the substitution of "Commission" for "Registrar.".

## **Deletion and substitution of section 34**

9. The Act is amended by deleting section 34 and substituting the following—

#### "Fees

- **34.** The following fees are payable to the Registrar or the Commission—
  - (a) to the Registrar for the inspection of the Beneficial Ownership Register by a person with a legitimate interest, \$30;
  - (b) to the Commission—
    - (i) for an application for a determination that the person has a legitimate interest in inspecting disclosable beneficial ownership information relating to an Anguilla company, \$30;
    - (ii) for an application by a registrable person or senior managing official to prohibit the disclosure of beneficial ownership information, \$500.

#### Citation

**6**. These Regulations may be cited as the Commercial Registry and Beneficial Ownership Registration System (Amendment) Regulations, 2025.

Made by the Governor in Council this day of , 2025.