

DENTONS

Cayman Islands

Redefining possibilities. Together, everywhere.

January 2026

Background

The Cayman Islands is a premier jurisdiction for the legal and banking industries, particularly in the realm of investment funds. As one of the world's top financial centres, the Cayman Islands offers a robust infrastructure that supports complex financial transactions and services. The jurisdiction's political stability, English common law jurisprudence and tax neutrality make it an attractive location for investors seeking a secure and efficient environment for their assets. Additionally, the Cayman Islands operate in the same time zones as the eastern United States, facilitating communication and coordination with major financial markets.

The Cayman Islands legal framework is highly regarded, providing a reliable and transparent system that underpins its financial services industry. This combination of strategic advantages, including a favorable regulatory environment and a high quality of life, ensures that the Cayman Islands remains a top choice for talented legal and financial professionals; institutions; high-net worth individuals and family offices.

Dentons' full-service office in the Cayman Islands handles corporate, commercial and financing matters; mergers and acquisitions; investment fund establishment and structuring; as well as civil litigation with a focus on commercial disputes (including insolvency, bankruptcy and restructuring).

Our office also offers traditional solicitor practice areas such as real estate conveyancing, immigration (including residency by investment), business licensing, trusts, estate planning and wealth management, trademarks and IP registration, and vessel/aircraft registration.

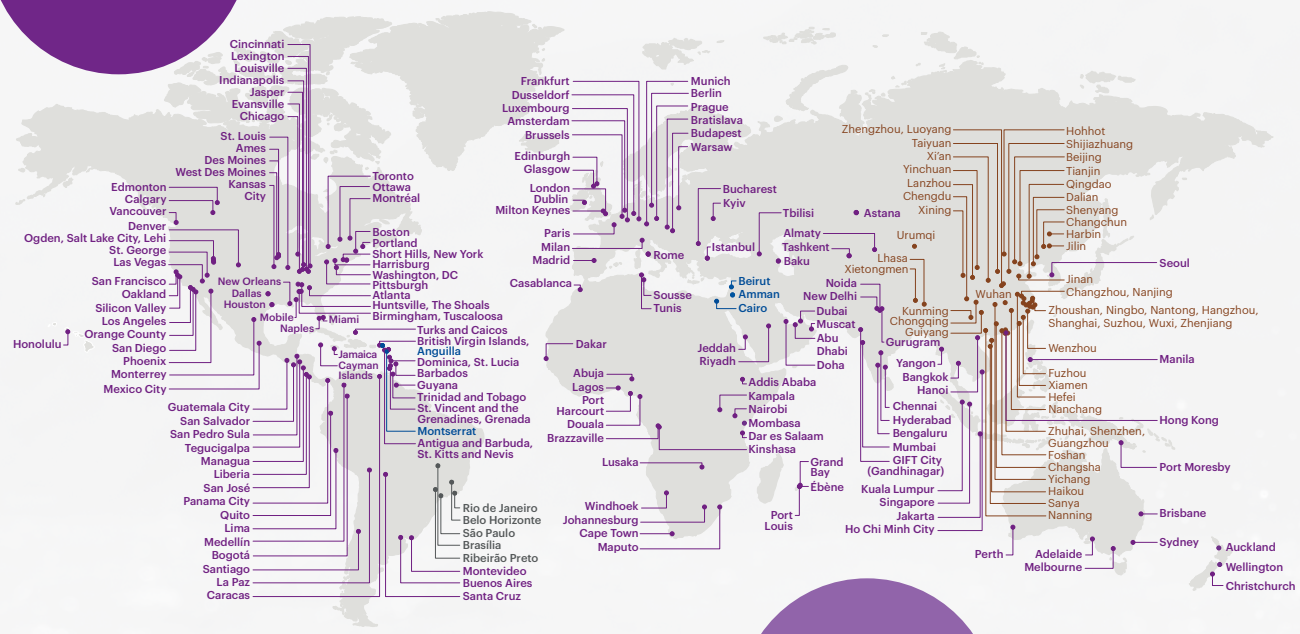
Our lawyers in the Cayman Islands work with their Dentons colleagues globally to provide seamless advice on cross-jurisdictional matters across all practice sectors. As many Cayman transactions can be heavily driven by legal/tax/regulatory advice received from other jurisdictions involved, our clear advantage over other Cayman Islands firms is our ability to leverage the Dentons global network of talented advisors under a consolidated engagement.

Dentons Cayman is recognised by Chambers & Partners and Legal 500 across multiple practice areas.

Dentons delivers worldwide service with local expertise

Dentons has unrivaled geographic coverage worldwide. Our lawyers and professionals leverage their global insights and local knowledge to help you realise your business objectives.

170+
locations



Locations in purple represent Dentons offices.
Locations in blue represent associate firms, offices, jurisdictions of practice from other Dentons' offices or special alliances as required by law or regulation.
Locations in gray represent Brazil Strategic Alliance.
大成 is Dentons' preferred law firm in China.

85+
countries

5,900+
Total number of lawyers and professionals

12,000+
Total number of people

Practice areas

Investment Funds

Our experienced investment funds team is focused on advising fund sponsors on the structuring and ongoing operation of hedge funds, private equity funds and cryptocurrency funds. Our diverse set of clients ranges from large institutional asset managers to smaller start-ups.

The team regularly advises funds, investment managers, trustees and fund administrators on regulatory and compliance matters including sanctions issues, CIMA licensing, economic substance solutions and anti-money laundering laws and regulations. We also advise institutional, strategic and seed investors in connection with their investments into Cayman Islands investment vehicles.

Our Cayman team works closely with our Dentons colleagues onshore and offshore in order to provide fast, seamless and cost-effective advice to our investment management clients in countries where they market to investors and make investments.

Our funds team is led by Jonathan Bernstein (Partner) who brings over 15 years' experience as an investment funds specialist in the Cayman Islands. He is supported by Sylvester Dube (Associate Partner) and associates.

Private Equity

Our Private Equity practice group represents funds, investors, issuers and agents throughout all stages of the investment cycle. We manage the process for clients in connection with their financing arrangements from fund formation, to targeted investments and related exit strategies including divestitures, mergers & acquisitions and public offerings. The practice also provides counsel on matters related to corporate governance, investor relations, as well as devising offshore structures that help to maximise shareholder value and mitigate risk. By leveraging our depth of industry knowledge and strategic insight, our attorneys are able to guide clients through complex transactions to achieve successful outcomes.

Our private equity team is led by Partners Jeffrey Johnstone and Jonathan Bernstein, who are supported by Sylvester Dube (Associate Partner) and associates.

Banking & Finance

Our team's expertise spans the full spectrum of lender and borrower-side financing transactions, and the team lead has over 24 years of practice, both onshore and offshore. We act for institutional and alternative lenders, corporates, limited partnerships, investment funds and debt issuers and have extensive experience in the real estate, fund finance and private equity sectors, as well as the financing of ships and aircraft. We are also experienced in Shariah-compliant structures such as commodity murabahah financing and the issuance of sukuk.

We pride ourselves on delivering responsive and commercially driven advice, coupled with a deep understanding of how to make transactions progress efficiently. The primary contacts for financing matters are Jeffrey Johnstone and Joanna Hossack.

Corporate/Commercial

Our formidable team handles all aspects of general corporate/commercial law, including:

- Offshore & Onshore corporate structuring/ business establishment (including family office)
- Mergers & Acquisitions
- Regulatory advice and licensing
- Public Listings
- Securities and Virtual Assets
- Insurance (in particular, captives and reinsurance)

Our corporate team is led by Partners Jeffrey Johnstone and Jonathan Bernstein, who are supported by Joanna Hossack and Sylvester Dube (Associate Partners), and Brian Patterson (Senior Corporate Counsel). Brian Patterson has become a thought leader in Cayman's fast growing virtual asset space.



Litigation, Insolvency & Restructuring

Our Cayman corporate and commercial team is supported by a strong litigation, insolvency/ bankruptcy and restructuring team with expertise in crucial areas including:

- Cross-border Restructuring Matters
- Insolvency Liquidators and Restructuring Officers
- Out-of-Court Restructurings and Work-outs
- Reorganisations
- Commercial Litigation and Enforcement
- Shareholder Disputes

Our longstanding expert in litigation is Michael Wingrave (Partner), and our specialist in insolvency and restructuring is Fraser Hughes (Partner). They are supported by associates and Hon. Alex Henderson, K.C., a former Cayman Islands and Canadian judge who delivered the second largest number of judgments in the history of Cayman Islands' Grand Court. In addition to commercial litigation, Alex is an expert in trust and estate litigation, and is also an ideal choice for Cayman arbitrations or expert evidence work.

Traditional Solicitor Practice

Our Cayman office prides itself on being in and of the local community, and continues to maintain a strong solicitor practice in the following areas:

- HNW Private Client (including: Trusts & Estate Planning)
- Real Estate Conveyancing & Development
- Residency by Investment (along with corporate and individual immigration/relocation matters)
- Business establishment & licensing (including: the turnkey offshore business solutions of Cayman Enterprise City and Tech Cayman)
- Tech & Intellectual Property (we are a licensed trademark agent for the Cayman Islands)
- Complex Employment Matters for global businesses with a Cayman presence
- Vessel & Aircraft Registration & Financing

This team is led by Partners, Randall Martin and Len de Vries, who both have over 15 years' experience in handling the above matters and are respected as leading choices for such in the local community.

Please feel free to contact any of the listed attorneys directly or for general inquiries contact +1 345 745 5000 or e-mail lawyers.caymanislands@dentons.com



Dentons Cayman Awards & Recognition

Dentons Cayman is recognised by the most prestigious international directories and named as a leading firm in multiple practice areas

Named as a leading firm in multiple practices:

- Banking, Finance and Capital Markets
- Corporate & Commercial
- Dispute Resolution
- Regulatory & Compliance





> ***"Dentons' banking and finance practice was recently bolstered by the arrival of Joanna Hossack in October in 2024 from Collas Crill. Hossack co-leads the team with Jeffrey Johnstone, and both are knowledgeable of lender and borrower fund finance, private equity, as well as ship and aircraft financing."***
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> Legal 500 commentary 2026

> ***"Dentons advises on complex commercial litigation and insolvency disputes, with expertise spanning restructuring, shareholder actions, contract claims, and professional negligence. Michael Wingrave specialises in asset recovery and insolvency litigation, while Fraser Hughes brings extensive trial experience, particularly in fraud, accounting, mutual fund, and private equity-related disputes."***
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> Legal 500 commentary 2026

> ***"Dentons' Cayman corporate and commercial team handles M&A, structured finance, family office structuring, venture tech, and IP holding structures. Practice head Jeffrey Johnstone advises on corporate governance, finance, and private equity, while Randall Martin focuses on business establishment, corporate structuring, and licensing across both offshore and onshore matters."***
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> Legal 500 commentary 2026

> ***"Dentons Cayman is recognised for its strength in regulatory and business licensing matters, advising a broad range of multinational companies with Cayman operations on their ongoing obligations across all business sectors. The practice works closely with other global offices, particularly in the US, UK, and Canada, to deliver integrated tax and regulatory advice. The firm also has notable experience advising on requirements before CIMA, the Department of Commerce and Investment, CIIPA, OfReg, the Department of Tourism, and the Cayman Islands Stock Exchange."***
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> Legal 500 commentary 2026

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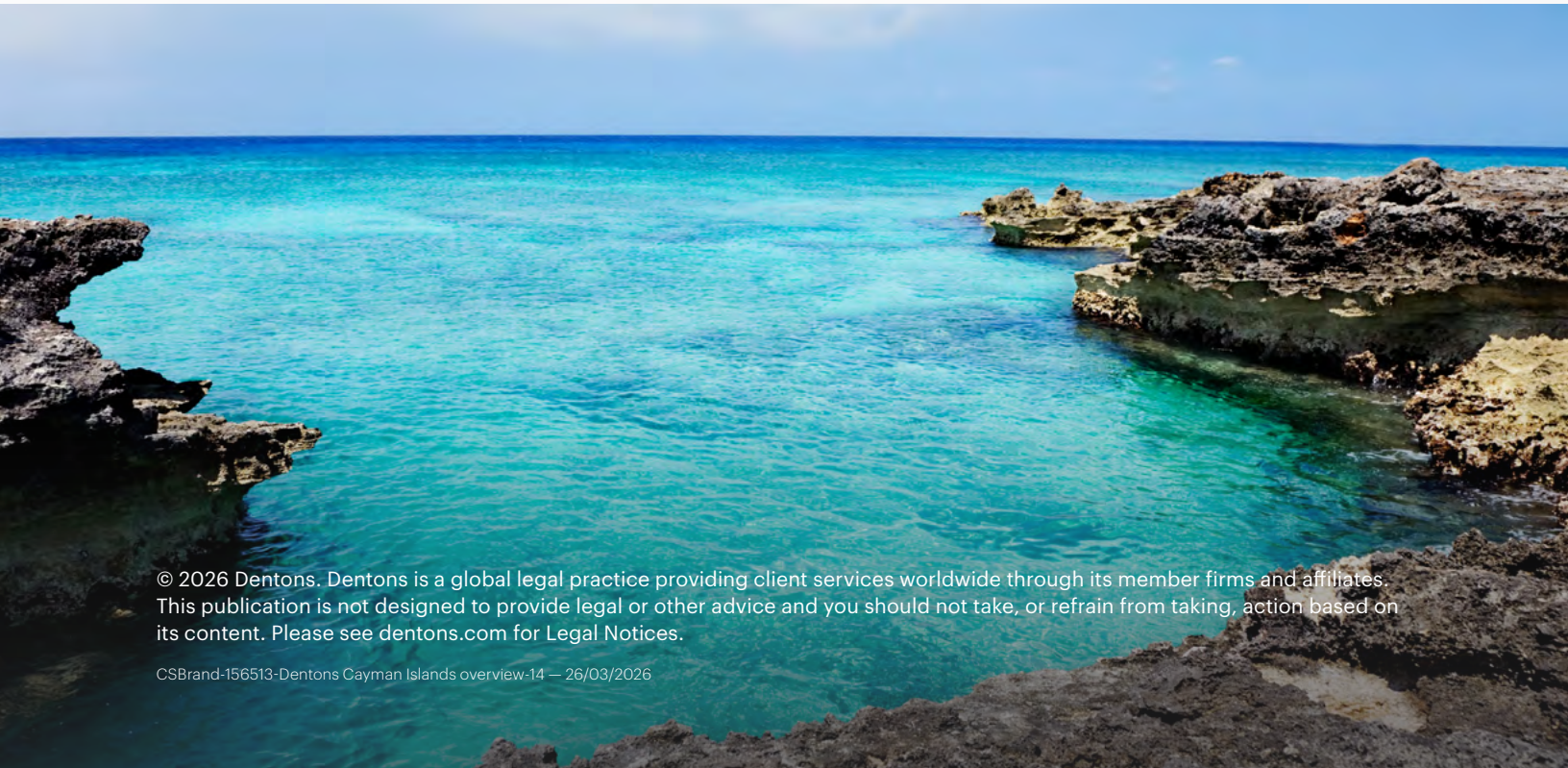
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