

GUIDANCE NOTE 06/2017 (Rev 1.0)

CAYMAN ISLANDS DISCHARGE BOOKS

To: SEAFARERS SERVING OR INTENDING TO SERVE ON CAYMAN ISLANDS SHIPS

1. BACKGROUND

1.1 A Cayman Islands Discharge Book, or Seafarers Discharge Book (SDB) is a document issued to seafarers by the Maritime Authority of the Cayman Islands (MACI). The sole purpose of a SDB is to record sea service and other information relating to its holder.

1.2 It is not compulsory for a seafarers serving on a Cayman Islands ship to be issued with a Cayman Islands Discharge Book. Sea service may also be recorded in separate documents containing a record of their employment on board the ship in accordance with Maritime Labour Convention Standard A2.1/1(e).

1.3 SDBs issued by other Administrations are also valid for recording sea service on a Cayman Islands ship.

2. WHO IS ENTITLED TO HOLD A CAYMAN ISLANDS DISCHARGE BOOK?

2.1 Cayman Islands Discharge Books may be issued to the following categories of seafarers –

- (a) Seafarers currently serving on board Cayman Islands ships in any capacity;
- (b) Seafarers who have been offered employment on board a Cayman Islands ship in any capacity; and
- (c) Other seafarers who wish to seek employment on board a Cayman Islands ship.

2.2 Applicants for a Cayman Islands Discharge Book should hold the following –

A valid seafarer Medical Certificate satisfying Maritime Labour Convention Standard A1.2 or Regulation I/9 of the STCW Convention; and

Evidence of Basic Training in accordance with Section A-VI/1.2 of the STCW Code.

3. PRODUCTION OF DISCHARGE BOOKS

3.1 The holder of a Cayman Islands discharge book should produce his or her SDB upon the request of –

A Surveyor of Ships appointed under section 419(1) of the Merchant Shipping Law;

An Inspector appointed under section 419(6) of the Merchant Shipping Law;

The Registrar of Shipping;

The Shipping Master;

The seafarer's employer; or

The master of a Cayman Islands ship on which the seafarer is serving, or about to serve.

3.2 If a seafarer holds a SDB issued by another Administration, it should also be produced on request to the persons mentioned above while the seafarer is employed on board a Cayman Islands ship.

4. SURRENDER OF DISCHARGE BOOKS

4.1 Under the Merchant Shipping Law seafarers may be disqualified from serving on a Cayman Islands ships if the seafarer is found to be unfit to discharge their duties by reason of incompetence, misconduct or serious negligence in the discharge of those duties.

4.2 The disciplinary body which disqualifies a seafarer from serving on a Cayman Islands ship may also require the surrender of any document, including a SDB, which has been issued to the seafarer by MACI or the Cayman Islands Shipping Registry. A SDB surrendered will normally be returned to the seafarer at the end of any period of disqualification.

5. APPLYING FOR A CAYMAN ISLANDS DISCHARGE BOOK

5.1 Qualified seafarers (See Section 2, above) can apply for a Cayman Islands Discharge Book via the CISR website (www.cishipping.com/services/seafarers). Application forms can be downloaded from this page.

5.2 Seafarers who are not employed, or about to be employed, on board a Cayman Islands ships may also apply for a Cayman Islands Discharge Book (See Section 2.1 (c), above) and should include evidence of serving as a seafarer on board a ship of any nationality within the last 5 years with their application.