



**Cayman Islands  
Human Rights Commission**

*promoting, protecting and preserving human rights*

REF: HRC-RES-OPCAT

Samuel Bulgin, QC  
Honourable Attorney General  
P.O. Box  
Grand Cayman KY1-9000  
CAYMAN ISLANDS

10 February 2015

Dear Mr. Bulgin,

Recently I had an opportunity to meet with the HM Prisons Inspectorate Team (“the Team”) who had been invited back to the Cayman Islands to conduct a follow-up review of the prisons in the Cayman Islands.

During our discussions the Team raised the issue of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhumane or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (“OPCAT”) being extended to the Cayman Islands. The United Kingdom has been a signatory to OPCAT since 2003 and, as recently as last year, took the step of extending it to the Isle of Man.

The Human Rights Commission agrees with the Team that OPCAT is an important agreement to which the Cayman Islands should be a party. OPCAT extension is also an important step to ensure ongoing compliance with section 6 of the 2009 Constitution – the treatment of prisoners.

Can you provide the Commission with details of the Government’s plans to invite the UK government to extend OPCAT to Cayman? Should the Government have no plans to seek the extension of OPCAT the Commission would be grateful if you could indicate the reasons for this.

Yours sincerely,

James Austin-Smith  
Chairman  
Human Rights Commission