

# IMLI<sup>e</sup>-News

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## THE BAHAMAS MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT VISITS IMLI

Mr. Frankie Alfred Campbell (the Honourable Minister of Transport and Local Government of the Bahamas) and his delegation comprising of Mrs. Katherine Campbell (journalist), Mr. Cephas A. Cooper (Director, Department of Local Government of the Bahamas) and Ms. Lafhanta Greenflade (Chief Training Officer, Department of Local Government of the Bahamas) visited IMLI on 21 November 2017.



*Mr. Frankie Alfred Campbell (the Honourable Minister of Transport and Local Government of the Bahamas) and Professor David Attard (Director, IMLI)*

The Honourable Minister and his delegation were received by Professor David Attard who introduced the faculty and students to them. Professor Attard expressed delight in receiving the Honourable Minister who, despite his busy schedule, reserved his time to visit IMLI. Professor Attard recalled with appreciation the strong ties IMLI has established with the Bahamas over the years, especially the financial contribution of the Bahamas to IMLI two years ago. Mr. Campbell was briefed about the Institute and its academic programmes and activities. He learnt that over 800 officials from nearly 140 countries have so far graduated from IMLI. Mr. Campbell was also informed that what makes IMLI unique, is that it is the only institution in the sphere of maritime education that provides training in maritime law from an international and comparative perspective and that its students are required to draft a law that incorporates and effectively implements IMO or other relevant international conventions in their country's domestic legislation.



*Mr. Frankie Alfred Campbell (the Honourable Minister of Transport and Local Government of the Bahamas) and Professor David Attard (Director, IMLI) with the IMLI Class of 2017-2018*

For his part, the Honourable Minister thanked Professor Attard for the warm reception accorded to him and his delegation. He informed Professor Attard that they are in Malta to attend the Commonwealth Local Government Ministers' Forum. He described the Bahamas as an archipelago which is composed of 700 islands, 22 of which are inhabited. He said that the Bahamas has emerged as one of the major players in ship registration, which explains their keen interest in

international maritime law. The Minister also stated that the Bahamas' engagement in bilateral and multilateral agreements obliges them to assume responsibilities to ensure that these international agreements are part of the laws of the Bahamas. He informed Professor Attard that they are in the process of drafting a new Merchant Shipping Act, the effective implementation of which will require specialised legal training, thus the importance of IMLI to his Government.

Commenting on the opportunities the training at IMLI offers, the Honourable Minister said:

*'I looked at the IMLI map and saw IMLI students from all over the world. I realised that the students have one thing in common which is the training they received from IMLI and those from the same graduating class will establish a relationship that will last for a long time and which will be instrumental to their career development. This makes me really impressed with the global network of your students.'*

The Honourable Minister Frankie Alfred Campbell obtained a Bachelor's of Science and Law Degrees from McHarr International College. He served in the Royal Bahamas Police Force for 29 years and received the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal in 2009. In 2010 he served a three-year Diplomatic Assignment as Charge d'affaires at the Bahamian Embassy in Port Au Prince, Haiti. He was a member of the Bahamas Mental Health Association.

Mr. Campbell was appointed Minister of Transport and Local Government of the Bahamas on 15 May 2017.

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