



Water Authority - Cayman

"Suppliers of the World's Most Popular Drink"

WATER AUTHORITY - CAYMAN MANAGEMENT TEAM

Position Title	Name	About
Director	Dr. Gelia Frederick-van Genderen, Cert. Hon.	Gelia began her professional career as Environmental Health Technologist with the Department of Environmental Health in 1983. In 1988 she left to take up a position with the Water Authority as Operations Scientist. In 1994 she was appointed Deputy Director and later promoted to Director of the Water Authority in October 2000.
Deputy Director	Mr. Tom van Zanten, MSc Eng (Delft), Eur Ing. MCIWEM	Tom joined the Water Authority in September 1984 when he was initially assigned as Associate Expert by the United Nations. Tom has more than 20 years experience in the water supply and sewerage field. In March 2005 he was promoted to Deputy Director-Engineering of the Water Authority. He is responsible for the New Works and Engineering Department and oversees the design, construction and management of all new works in the areas of both water supply (production and distribution) and sewerage (collection and treatment).
Chief Financial Officer	Ms. Lori Bergman, B.Comm, CA	Lori joined the Water Authority in September 2002 as Financial Controller. Lori is responsible for the management of the Financial Department and oversees the financial management and accounting operations of the Water Authority including financial planning and budgeting, accounts payables and receivables, cash management, management accounting, asset protection and management and inventory control.
Chief HR Officer (Designate)	Mrs. Yolita Phillips, Assoc CIPD	Yolita joined the Water Authority in January 2009. As the Chief HR Officer (Designate), she provides strategic leadership and oversight for all Human Resources functions. As head of the Human Resources and Administration Department, her responsibilities include organisational development, employee relations, training and development, recruitment, performance management, and the administration of the Authority's benefits and compensation programs.
Chief Business Relations Officer	Mrs. Joanna Welcome-Martinez, LLB, BSc, MBA	Joanna joined the Water Authority as Customer Service Manager in June 2002. She leads a team of 18 employees and oversees the areas of customer care, metering, billing and collections to ensure delivery of high quality service in a timely manner to all customers.
Chief Information Systems Officer (Designate)	Mrs. Kristina Hydes, MSc	Kristina joined the Water Authority in 2019 after completing her undergraduate degree through the Authority's Scholarship Programme. As a former scholarship recipient, she has developed her career within the organization, progressing through several roles in the Information Systems Department. Appointed Chief Information Systems Officer (Designate) in July 2026, Kristina leads the Authority's Information Systems Department. She is responsible for the strategic direction and governance of its technology services and ensures that technology investments support the efficient, secure, and reliable delivery of services across the organisation.
Water Resources Engineer	Mr. Hendrik-Jan van Genderen, MSc, Eur Ing	Hendrik came to the Cayman Islands in 1988 as Associate Expert sponsored by the United Nations to work with the Water Authority. In 1990 he was appointed as Resident Engineer and was promoted to Water Resources Engineer in 1994. He is responsible for the Water Resources and Quality Control Department. This department, which includes an internationally accredited lab, conducts ongoing monitoring and research in order to fulfill the Water Authority's statutory responsibility to manage, develop and protect the water resources of the Cayman Islands.
Chief Operations Engineer	Mr. Juan Carlos Leiva-Vargas, BSc. P.E	Juan (Carlos), is a Licensed Professional Electrical Engineer in the state of Florida and is the first recipient of the Authority's Scholarship. He initially joined the Authority as a Graduate Engineer in January 2007. Between 2007 and 2012 he was responsible for the Authority's electrical assets. After a five year break, he rejoined the Authority in January 2017 as Senior Engineering Manager – Operations where he initially oversaw the Water Supply Department. With his continued growth and development he was gradually given more responsibilities. In 2020 he was given the responsibility to lead the Wastewater Operations team and in 2023 he was then given the opportunity to lead the Cayman Brac Operations team. As Chief Operations Engineer Juan (Carlos) oversees the Authority's Operations including Water Treatment, Water Distribution, Wastewater Collections and Wastewater Treatment.