



BELIZE

REVISED EDITION 2011 SHOWING THE SUBSTANTIVE LAWS AS AT 31ST DECEMBER, 2011

This is a revised edition of the Substantive Laws, prepared by the Law Revision Commissioner under the authority of the Law Revision Act, Chapter 3 of the Substantive Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2011.

VOLUME 1 Preliminary Booklet and Chapters 1 to 15

PREFACE

The 2011 Law Revision Exercise was conducted under the authority of the Law Revision Act, Chapter III of the Substantive Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2011.

My participation in the exercise was facilitated and supported by the Commonwealth Secretariat, London, through CFTC Law Revision Assistance Programme to the Caribbean Community, under the auspices of the CARICOM Secretariat and complemented by the Government of Belize.

The last revision of the Substantive Laws of Belize was made in 2000-2003, under the authority of the said Law Revision Act, by the late Dr. Elson Kaseke, former Solicitor General and Chief Parliamentary Counsel, as the Law Revision Commissioner.

The total number of the Substantive Laws at the end of that exercise effective 31st December in 2000 - 2003, was three hundred and sixty one (361) contained in nine (9) loose bound volumes. In the current edition, the total number of the Substantive Laws effective 31st December, 2013, is four hundred and one (401) contained in fifteen (15) volumes and placed in eighteen (18) loose bound binders and in CD Roms. It should therefore be noted that, from 2003 to 2011 there was an increase of fifty two (52) additional Substantive Laws (Excluding Amendment Laws).

This increase in number is significant and considering the volume of new laws that were made in the last ten (10) years, there is the possibility for a tremendous increase in new laws in the very near future. It is therefore worthwhile to continue the revision exercise on a regular basis in order for both the revised substantive laws and any new substantive laws to be reviewed concurrently.

The continuous revision exercise would also afford the opportunity to revise the subsidiary legislation with a view to having combined volumes of substantive laws and their respective subsidiary legislation; instead of the existing practice of revising only the substantive laws.

Additionally, continuous revision will allow for the production of the revised laws on a regular basis by way of “Re-prints” instead of the burden of full scale revision. It would also facilitate capacity building of the Attorney General’s Ministry as the staff would be exposed to and acquire revision skills on the job.

The publication of the laws in electronic format is also a significant development in the Revised Edition, as it offers persons a free platform as well as online (web based) access on a licensed basis thereby ensuring the wide distribution of and easy access to the Laws of Belize.

I would like to convey my sincere thanks and gratitude to the staff of the Law Revision Unit, Solicitor General's Chambers, Attorney General's Ministry, Belmopan, Belize

This Revised Edition 2011 of the Substantive Laws of Belize, is the product of many hours of research, by everyone who was involved in the exercise. I am honored to have been afforded the opportunity to direct the work of such committed team of professionals. I sincerely trust that these Laws will satisfy the needs of the legal fraternity and the general public within and outside Belize.

JUSTICE ABDULAI D. ZURU
LAW REVISION COMMISSIONER
BELIZE
MARCH, 2015

THE SUBSTANTIVE LAWS OF BELIZE REVISED EDITION 2011

PREFACE

1. Prior to 2012, three Consolidated Indices were produced locally in 1996, 2000 and 2003, respectively.
2. This Consolidated Index was prepared by Justice Abdulai D. Zuru, Law Revision Commissioner, in conjunction with The Regional Law Revision Centre Inc. It contains all of the revised Substantive Laws of Belize as at February, 2012.
3. It is well accepted and established that a current Consolidated Index of the Laws of any country is of paramount importance. It is an essential tool for anyone interested in the law.
4. Every effort has been made to accurately reflect the present position of the Laws of Belize, however errors and omissions in a work of this nature and volume are inevitable. Lawyers and other persons who use this index are requested to highlight any errors and omissions so that they may be corrected in future editions.

ANIKA N. JACKSON
SOLICITOR GENERAL, BELIZE

11th day of March, 2015

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