

# Mission Statement

*"Protecting Bermuda's border and promoting economic development"*

Our Mandate is to:

- Facilitate legitimate trade;
- Assess and collect revenue; and
- Interdict drugs and other contraband.

In carrying out our mandate we will:

- Encourage and promote voluntary compliance;
- Communicate and co-operate with our clients and stakeholders;
- Adhere to high standards of integrity and professionalism; and
- Treat the public and each other with respect.

## **Bermuda Customs Department Pledge**

I pledge to uphold the laws of Bermuda and faithfully follow the policies and procedures of the Bermuda Customs Department. With dedication, I will serve to protect the safety and well-being of our island. Through teamwork and collaboration, we will strengthen our efforts and ensure a prosperous future for Bermuda.

***"In unity, we fulfill our mission;  
Together we protect Bermuda's future."***

Custom House  
131 Front Street  
Hamilton HM12

# CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT



## TRAINEE CUSTOMS OFFICERS GROUP 11 -2024

## END OF BASIC TRAINING CEREMONY HAMILTON PRINCESS & BEACH CLUB

FEBRUARY 13TH, 2025  
11:30AM

*Master of Ceremonies*

*PCO Kent D. Dill*

*Order of Ceremony*

*Recruits March On*

*Led by Parade Commander  
CO Chauncey Durham*

*Inspection of Recruits*

*The Hon. Michael Weeks  
The Collector of Customs*

*Welcome*

*SCO Heather J. Hollis*

*Prayer*

*Chaplin Dr. Kevin Santucci*

*Collector's Remarks*

*Mrs. Lucinda Pearman*



*Trainee Customs Officer  
Kenneth Young*

Prior to joining the Customs Department I moved through various careers in Bermuda and in the United Kingdom. Upon returning home to Bermuda I applied to the Department as I have always valued a role where I can make a valuable contribution to my community and also enhance my personal development. Since joining the Customs Department I have thoroughly enjoyed my experience and look forward to advancing my career.



*Trainee Customs Officer  
Shaddai Williams*

Prior to joining the Customs Department I moved through various careers whilst spending the majority of my time self employed.

I applied to the Department as I have always valued a role where I can make a valuable contribution to my community and also enhance my personal development. Since joining the Customs Department I have thoroughly enjoyed my experience and look forward to further development.

*Minister's Remarks  
The Hon. Michael Weeks*

*Presentations*

*End of Training Certificates*

*Awards*

*The Arthur Virgil Award  
Presented by Mrs. Christine Virgil*

*The Collector's Cup  
Presented by Mrs. Lucinda Pearman*

*Vote of Thanks  
SCO Lalisha M. Woods*

*Presentation of New  
Trainee Customs Officers  
March Out*

## Message from the Minister of National Security,



**The Hon. Michael Weeks, JP, MP**

It is with immense pride and admiration that I extend my heartfelt congratulations to the Trainee Customs Officers on their successful completion of the Basic Trainee Programme. This achievement reflects your dedication, perseverance, and commitment to serving Bermuda with integrity and professionalism.



***Trainee Customs Officer  
Antione Williams***

I am often referred to as a very outgoing, bubbly and personable kind of person. You will usually see me smiling and spreading good energy amongst my peers and colleagues. I'm like a ray of sunshine on anybody's cloudy day. Joining The Bermuda Customs Department has been a very rewarding experience thus far. I decided to join the department because I have always been interested in doing my part to help keep Bermuda safe. Within Customs I am looking to grow and thrive. I am hoping my tenure here will be rewarding and full of success! Cheers to Customs!



## *Trainee Customs Officer* *David Simmons*

I chose to become a customs officer because I wanted a career that ensures the safety and well-being of our community and the opportunity to protect Bermuda's borders. This role allows me to contribute to the national security of Bermuda by preventing illegal goods from entering the country, while also facilitating legitimate trade and travel. What I enjoy most is that every day presents new challenges and opportunities to solve problems. We get the opportunity to interact with people from diverse backgrounds and enforce Bermuda's laws. Ultimately, this career gives me a sense of purpose, knowing that my work helps uphold the integrity and security of Bermuda.

By stepping forward to take on this vital role, you have accepted a responsibility that is integral to the safety and security of our island. Customs Officers play a critical part in protecting our borders, safeguarding our economy, and ensuring that the laws of our land are upheld. Your work not only helps to prevent illegal goods from entering our country but also supports the lawful flow of trade, contributing to the island's economy.

The skills and knowledge you have gained throughout this programme are the foundation for what will undoubtedly be a rewarding and impactful career. As you embark on this journey, I encourage you to remain vigilant, committed, and dedicated to the highest standards of service.

Thank you for stepping up to this challenge and for choosing to serve Bermuda with honour and integrity. Your contribution is invaluable, and I am confident that you will uphold the proud tradition of excellence within the Bermuda Customs Department.

Congratulations once again on this remarkable accomplishment. I wish you every success in your future endeavours.

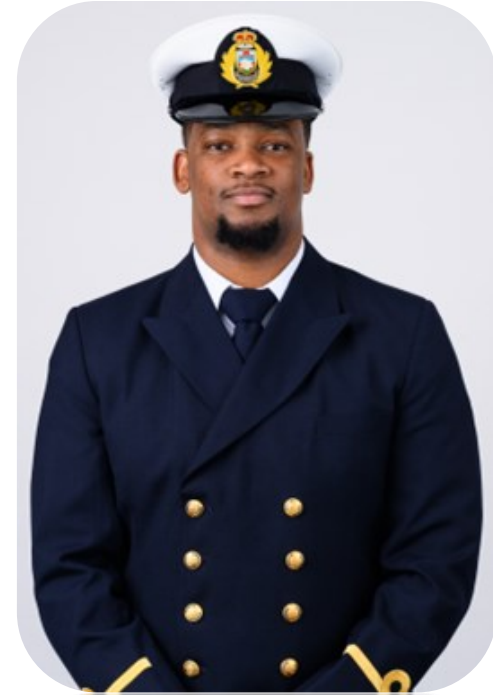
## Message from The Collector of Customs

Today, we gather to celebrate the dedication, courage, and commitment of our new recruits as they embark on this exciting journey. We also extend our warmest welcome to our guests, whose support and presence make this occasion truly special. May today be the beginning of a rewarding and inspiring path for our recruits, and a memorable experience for us all.

Enforcement is not just a job; it is a responsibility that requires unwavering commitment to the rule of law and a deep sense of duty to serve and protect. Every decision you make, every action you take, will have an impact—on individuals, businesses, and the broader society. Your role is critical in maintaining order, ensuring compliance, and fostering trust in the system you represent.

As new recruits, I encourage you to:

1. Commit to continuous learning – The enforcement landscape is ever-evolving. Stay informed, be adaptable, and never stop seeking knowledge to enhance your skills and effectiveness.
2. Work as a team – You are now part of a larger family that depends on each other. Support your colleagues, communicate effectively, and foster a culture of respect and collaboration.



*Trainee Customs Officer  
Delray Rawlins*

I originally was interested in custom as I found it interesting to be able to work in different areas of Bermuda and have different roles with the department. Also to make a difference in the community.



*Trainee Customs Officer  
Raichelle Pavy-Johnson*

I enjoy reading, relaxing, cardio and travelling. I joined the Customs Department because there are a variety of sections to work in. I believe Customs is a great opportunity to develop leadership skills and assertiveness. I hope to have a long-term career in government.

3. Lead with integrity – Your actions must always reflect honesty, fairness, and accountability. Public trust is hard to earn and easy to lose. Protect it with everything you do.
4. Stay resilient – Enforcement work can be demanding and at times stressful. Take care of your well-being, remain focused on your purpose, and never hesitate to seek support when needed.

Finally, I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge the dedication of the Training Team who have worked tirelessly to prepare you for the path ahead. Their expertise, guidance, and commitment have shaped the professionals you are today, and we are grateful for their efforts. You are here because you have shown the potential to contribute meaningfully to Customs. I have every confidence that with dedication and the right mindset, you will excel and make a lasting impact.

Congratulations on completing this phase of your journey. I look forward to seeing you grow and succeed in your new role. Welcome to Customs, and best of luck in the journey ahead.

*"The journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step, and today, you've taken that step. Remember, it's not the challenges you face, but how you rise to meet them that defines you. The future belongs to those who are brave enough to shape it."*



*Trainee Customs Officer  
Jessica Andrade*

I have previous work experience in the hospitality industry. I was a chef for 12 years before joining the Customs Department. On my free time I enjoy gardening and spending time in nature. I chose to join Customs to broaden my horizon and further my education. I aspire to have a successful long-term career in Customs. My goal is to become a well-rounded officer who is a leader and an advocate for positive change.



*Trainee Customs Officer  
Christopher Pacheco*

After 7 years of working in the HVAC industry, I felt that it was time for a change in career where I have room to grow, and be able to have a long lasting career. So when I saw customs were hiring I felt that it would be the perfect opportunity for me to fulfill a long lasting career with many avenues to grow in.



*Trainee Customs Officer  
Arian Morris*

I have a passion for kung-fu, team sports, playing pool, music, movies and life in general. I have a well-rounded work experience as I've worked in hospitality, painting, construction, warehousing and security. I chose Customs because I felt it was the next best step in my career to mature and evolve. I believed my positive energy and mindset, my calm personality and wide range of skills could be crucial to the department. I envision having a successful and fulfilling career in Customs where I can continue to prosper and make a difference by keeping the island safe for my community.



*Trainee Customs Officer  
Derricko Augustus*

Seeking a new career path led me to the Customs Department, where I have been developing my skills and gaining valuable experience. With a strong background in customer service, I take pride in engaging with the public and ensuring fair, professional interactions. As I prepare to transfer to the airport, I look forward to combining my passion for aviation with my commitment to protecting Bermuda's borders and supporting economic growth. I approach this role with integrity, treating every duty with the same care I would expect for my own family business.



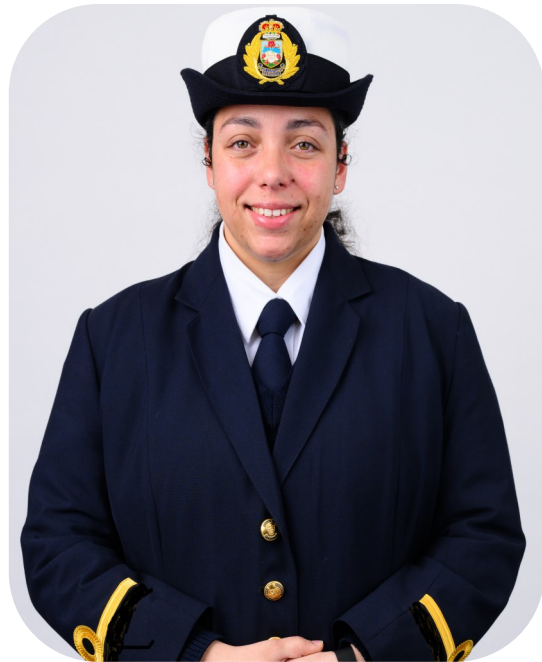
*Trainee Customs Officer  
Allan Ball Jr.*

Joining the Bermuda Customs Department was an honor for myself and my family, attaching to one of Bermuda's most prestigious uniformed services. Presented with the opportunity to invoke change with a fresh outside perspective, with a zealous approach to learning all aspects of the Department has been rewarding. Navigating this new career path is an intriguing challenge, that I have embraced with an eye on future upward mobility.



*Trainee Customs Officer  
Siairah Minors*

I joined the Customs Department in the hopes of having an aspiring career all the while making a difference during my tenure here. I hope to leave a positive impact on those that I work with, from my interactions with the public and working closely with my team. I hope to bring a ray of sunshine and joy wherever I go while keeping Bermuda's borders safe and getting that revenue.



*Trainee Customs Officer  
Aleisha Martin*

I am 33 years old. I joined the Customs Department to have a career with more opportunity for growth and to have a greater sense of purpose and job security. My hope in the department is to continue to have personal growth and to move up the rank structure and have a fulfilling successful career.



*Trainee Customs Officer  
Tianny Butterfield*

I am a 38-year-old proud wife and mother to Ava and AJ. One would describe me as a free-spirited, social individual who enjoys interacting with people of all ages. I chose Bermuda Customs over a decade ago and finally God saw it fit for me to join this organization to follow my aspiration to promote change in Bermuda. I would love to have a long successful career in Customs. My professional goal is to help improve the Public's view of Customs Officers by always being friendly, professional, and maintaining a high standard of integrity while conducting my daily duties.



*Trainee Customs Officer  
Diamond Dill*

As a young Bermudian, on my journey of finding a career path, what truly drew me to becoming a customs officer was the opportunity to protect my country and the potential for personal growth and development within my career. In my free time I enjoy photography, gymnastics and socializing. I am proud to be part of an organization that values integrity. Joining the Customs Department has been a challenging yet rewarding experience, and I look forward to continuing to serve and make a positive impact on our community.



*Trainee Customs Officer  
Renee Harvey*

I joined Customs seeking a career change, a job where I could develop and grow from strength to strength. With my life experience and skills, I hope to develop into a good officer. It's been only a few months, but it has been rewarding, fostering growth and confidence in my career.



*Trainee Customs Officer  
Ashanti Hart*

I enjoy reading and spending quality time with close friends and family. I made the choice to make customs my career because it was a great opportunity to serve my community in a way that its being affected the most. I hope to be part of change on our small island and in doing such, I hope to influence others to do the same.



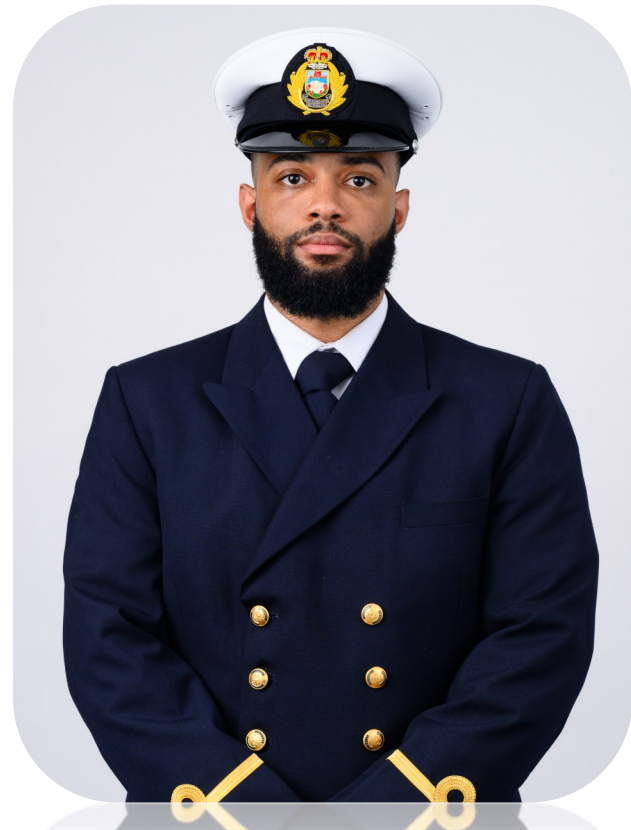
*Trainee Customs Officer  
Milun Dunlop*

I have been employed in the Customs Trainee program for the past 6 months. I joined Customs to challenge myself and to develop a career path. I am thankful for the opportunity to be a part of this program. I have enjoyed learning about the various aspects of the Customs Department, and the experience so far has helped me to step out of my comfort zone. I look forward to continuing this educational journey and expanding my knowledge, so that I can be better equipped in my job, and take advantage of the opportunities within the Department.



*Trainee Customs Officer  
Jayden Fagundo-Brimmer*

I joined the Customs Department as I believed that it is a great opportunity to have a long and successful career, and also an opportunity to make a difference in protecting Bermuda's borders.



*Trainee Customs Officer  
Vladimir Focke*

The Customs Department appealed to me because it is a respectable career that offers a diverse range of experience and provide me with a sense of fulfillment for serving my community. I hope to grow into a more finance and compliance role within the organization to help fortify our standards within the greater global community.