

● ELNET MARITIME UPDATES ● THE BLUE ECONOMY ● GLOBAL MARITIME NEWS

## ELNET MARITIME CENTER

### International Day for Women in Maritime Spotlight

As the world celebrates International Day for Women in Maritime on May 18th, the Elnet Blue Dispatch is eager to recognize JoBeth Lillian Coleby-Davis, a prominent Bahamian politician, attorney and trailblazer for women in the maritime industry.

Coleby-Davis currently serves as the Minister of Housing and Transport for The Bahamas. She is committed to promoting sustainable development in the blue economy and creating inclusive opportunities for Bahamians. With extensive experience in the legal and political spheres, Minister Coleby-Davis is a respected figure in the country, highly regarded for her work in advancing the blue economy and promoting gender equality.

As a small island developing state, the blue economy is of utmost importance to The Bahamas, and Coleby-Davis is a firm believer in the power of the sector to drive economic growth while simultaneously promoting sustainable development. In a recent interview with the Elnet Blue Dispatch, she shared her vision for the blue economy and the Government's plans to help achieve this overall success.

"Our vision for the blue economy is holistic and comprehensive. In our Blueprint for Change, we spoke about modernizing the fishing industry – creating opportunities in ocean sciences and seafaring, developing, and regulating our beaches and sea sports industry. We are committed to strengthening the Royal Bahamas Defense Force's capacity to prevent poaching and piracy."

"We are also focused on encouraging renewable industries. During my term in office, we have provided increased support to The Bahamas Maritime Authority and forged stronger relationships with our



Hon. JoBeth Coleby-Davis, Minister of Housing and Transport for The Bahamas.

maritime partners."

Minister JoBeth Coleby-Davis firmly believes that the blue economy, specifically the maritime sector, has the potential to become one of the top industries in The Bahamas. This view is rooted in the current and growing presence of cruise-related projects, the expansion of our ship registry, and the high level of respect our country receives related to the maritime industry. With these positive signs, Minister Coleby-Davis believes that our country can only go higher in terms of its potential as a major player in the global blue economy.

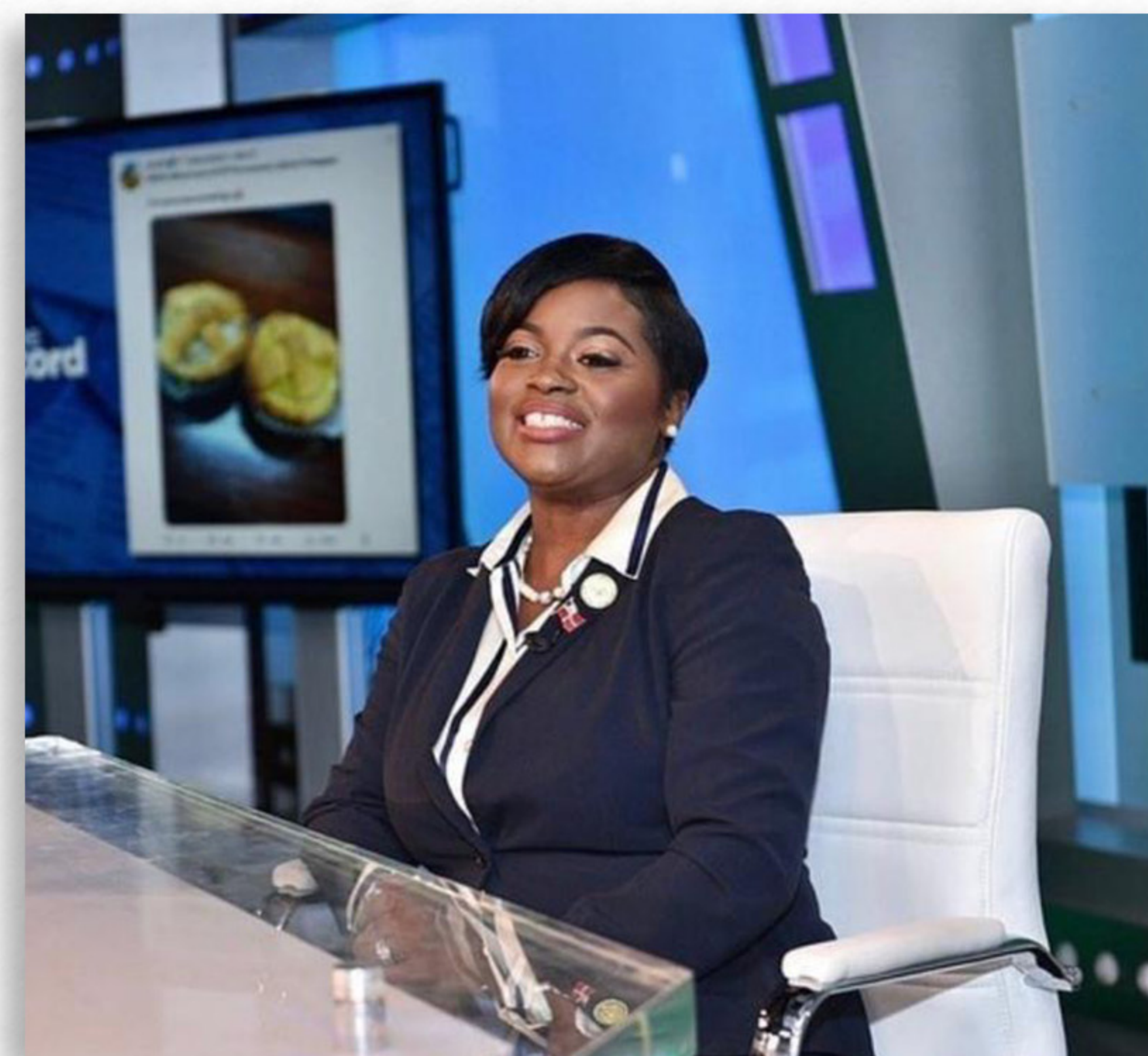
Minister Coleby-Davis is also channeling her focus on promoting sustainable development in the country, balancing environmental concerns with economic growth. She is excited about the newly approved development agreements for cruise ports spanning multiple islands and cays.

"As an administration, we are mindful of the importance of balancing development and environmental

environmental concerns, therefore our approach is to pursue sustainable development. The Bahamas has always been a sought-after cruise destination. By expanding the number of cruise ports, we are expanding our tourism product and showcasing as much of our islands as possible."

Despite the reputation of the maritime industry as a male-dominated field, Minister Coleby-Davis is committed to promoting gender equality in the sector. As an advocate for the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goal #5, she is working to create opportunities for women to advance their knowledge of maritime affairs and promote their inclusion in the industry.

Minister JoBeth Lillian Coleby-Davis has proven that women have a rightful place in positions of power, no matter the industry. She continues to break barriers while making significant contributions to the overall development of not only her respective industries but the entire Bahamas. Her commitment to promoting sustainable development and gender equality is particularly commendable, and we look forward to seeing the impact of her initiatives in the coming years.



## 'Sailing' Named the New National Sport of The Bahamas



Photo Credit: Toursim Today Bahamas



The Bahamas has named sailing as its new national sport, replacing cricket, as announced in the House of Assembly on April 12, 2023. Agriculture, Marine Resources, and Family Island Affairs Minister Clay Sweeting moved the resolution and expressed his excitement for the long-awaited announcement.

"We have witnessed its evolution, and it is a sport that has won the hearts of Bahamians and the millions of visitors to The Bahamas. It is a sport that subtly reminds us of who we are – a friendly, maritime people that continues to make waves internationally by sailing with vigor and grace – the underpinnings of the Bahamian spirit," said Sweeting.

Sweeting highlighted that sailing is a sport that reminds Bahamians of their identity as maritime people, and

it has won the hearts of both locals and visitors. He also emphasized that sailing has been a part of Bahamian culture for centuries, from the work boats to meticulously crafted sloop race boats and the first regatta, held in Exuma in 1943.

The sport of sailing has grown in strength over the past decades and has become an essential economic drive for the Family Islands. The Family Islands, also known as the Out Islands, are a group of islands in The Bahamas located outside the densely populated, New Providence and Grand Bahama. Family Islands consist of popular destinations such as Eleuthera, Exuma, Abaco, Andros, and the Berry Islands. The islands are known for their natural beauty, pristine beaches, and diverse marine life, making them popular tourist destinations for those seeking a more

relaxed and secluded experience.

Currently, there are 18 senior regattas and 17 junior sailing events held annually throughout The Bahamas. Minister Sweeting also acknowledged several sailing athletes, including Rolly Gray and Edgar Moxey. The former Minister of Agriculture and Marine Resources, now leader of the opposition, Michael Pintard, supported the appointment of the new national sport.

Sailing is vibrant in The Bahamas, and the move to recognize it as the new national sport is a way to acknowledge the legacy of the sport while promoting its development.

*Sailing has officially become the national sport of The Bahamas on April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023.*

## The Bahamas' Blue Economy Potential: Monaco Oceans Week 2023



Photo Credit: Monaco Ocean Week

The Bahamas' Blue Economy potential took center stage at the annual Monaco Oceans Week held from March 20-26, 2023. Stakeholders and experts from around the world gathered to discuss ways to preserve oceans, analyze major threats to marine environments, and brainstorm new opportunities for building profitable blue economies in jurisdictions threatened by climate change.

Hosted by Prince Albert II of Monaco - a prominent ocean advocate - the event attracted top scientists, entrepreneurs, celebrities, and public authorities. An event highlight was a

panel on Coastal Resilience for The Bahamas. Grand Bahama native Rupert Hayward, of Blue Action Ventures, shared innovative solutions to climate threats facing coastal communities in The Bahamas.

As a low-lying island nation, The Bahamas is particularly vulnerable to climate-driven threats, making it an integral component in the preservation of oceans and coastal communities. Hayward emphasized the urgency of these threats and the importance of protecting the country from the harsh effects of climate change. He also highlighted the potential of the Blue Economy to generate millions of dollars in investment and thousands of high-skilled jobs.

Blue Action Ventures, of which Hayward is the founder and president, co-organized the event with Prince Albert II. The organization is currently undertaking several resilience and capacity-building efforts in The Bahamas centered



Rupert Hayward, Founder and President Blue Action Ventures

around mangroves, sustainable aquaculture, reef restoration, and support for entrepreneurs.

The Bahamas' vast marine resources, including the third-largest barrier reef in the world, offer enormous potential for economic growth and sustainable development. Sustainable fisheries, marine tourism,

renewable energy, and ocean-based industries like biotechnology, pharmaceuticals, and cosmetics are among the opportunities available.

The Bahamas' Blue Economy potential is enormous and offers exciting opportunities for economic growth and sustainable development. The country's efforts to build resilience and preserve its marine resources are commendable. Through these efforts and collaborations, the country will navigate the challenges posed by climate change while harnessing the opportunities available in the Blue Economy.



Photo Credit: Eye Witness News

## PROMOTIONS

### Elnet Maritime's "What To Do" in Grand Bahama's Blue Economy

**“WHAT TO DO”  
GRAND BAHAMA BLUE ECONOMY**

FREEPORT, GRAND BAHAMA  
THE BAHAMAS

**FREEPORT HARBOUR COMPANY**

- Bunkers
- Cash To Master
- Crew Medical
- Cruise Ship Facility
- De-Stopping
- Discharging
- Double Banking
- Loading
- Logistics/Clearance & Delivery
- Special Projects
- SSCEC Renewal
- Vessel Lay Ups
- Warehouse Storage
- Wet Dock Repairs

**1**

**FREEPORT CONTAINER PORT**

- Cash To Master
- Logistical Projects
- Logistics/Clearance & Delivery
- Special Projects
- Transhipment of Containers
- Warehouse Storage

**2**

**OPL**

- Crew Changes
- Bunkers
- Deslopping
- Logistics/Clearance & Delivery
- Crew Medical
- Off Shore Bunkering
- Cash To Master
- Warehouse Storage
- Special Projects

**4**

**BUCKEY BAHAMAS HUB**

- Butane Fuel
- Cargo Operations
- Cash to Master
- Clean Petroleum Products
- Crew Change
- Discharging
- Fresh Water
- Line Bunkering
- Loading
- Warehouse Storage
- Crude Oil
- Fuel Oil

**3**

**OFFSHORE AREA**

- Lightering Operations
- Logistics
- Clearance & Delivery of Shipment
- Special Projects
- Warehouse Storage

**5**

**“WHAT TO DO”  
GRAND BAHAMA BLUE ECONOMY**

FREEPORT, GRAND BAHAMA  
THE BAHAMAS

**GRAND BAHAMA ANCHORAGE/ GREAT ISACS**

- Arrested Ships
- Bunkers
- Cash To Master
- Collecting Samples
- Crew Change
- Crew Medical
- Deslopping
- Fresh Water
- Hull Cleaning
- Hull Inspection
- Logistics/Clearance & Delivery
- Management Change
- Ownership Change
- Propeller Polishing
- Special Projects
- Surveyor Attendance
- Warehouse Storage

**6**

**BAHAMA ROCK**

- Cash to Master
- Loading
- Loading -Limestone / Aggregates
- Logistics
- Clearance & Delivery of Shipments
- Special Projects
- Warehouse Storage

**7**

**GRAND BAHAMA SHIPYARD**

- Cash To Master
- Crew Attendance
- Deslopping
- Dry Dock Repairs
- Logistics/Clearance & Delivery
- Special Projects
- Survey Attendance
- Warehouse Storage
- Wet Dock Repairs

**8**

**BRADFORD MARINE**

- Cash to Master
- Crew Changes
- Dry Dock Repairs
- Hull Cleaning
- Logistics
- Clearance & Delivery of Shipments
- Special Projects
- Warehouse Storage
- Wet Dock Repairs
- Yachts Small Crafts

**9**

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