

**Office of the Senior Deputy Registrar CIRCULAR LETTER No. QAD-002**

Issued under the authority of the Merchant Ships (Registration) Act of 2011 (Part 1/Section 6(5))

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**To:** Deputy Registrars & Designated Offices

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**Subject:** Ex-Officio Cancellations

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**WHEREAS** the Senior Deputy Registrar of the International Merchant Marine Registry of Belize (IMMARBE) is authorized, under Part I, Section 6(5) of the Merchant Ships (Registration) Act, to implement the provisions of this Act and its subsidiary regulations – including prescribing requirements for vessels or IMMARBE users and imposing administrative charges or penalties;

**WHEREAS** the integrity and credibility of the Registry are paramount to ensuring compliance with regulatory standards and upholding best practices in the maritime industry.

**WHEREAS** certain vessels may pose a significant risk to the Registry’s integrity due to illicit activities or violations, thereby jeopardizing the overall effectiveness of the Registry in maintaining a trusted and reliable fleet.

**WHEREAS** it is essential to establish clear guidelines regarding ex-officio cancellations to streamline the process and eliminate ambiguities.

**BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED:**

1. *Ex-officio cancellation* of vessels shall be conducted automatically by the Registry and will not require any specific action or request from the vessel owner.
2. Immediate *ex-officio cancellation* of vessels shall be considered final and conclusive, with no provisions for review or appeals.
3. Vessels approved for *ex-officio cancellation* or immediate *ex-officio cancellation* shall be promptly removed from the Registry and all concerned parties shall be notified.
4. Additional sanctions and penalties may be imposed separately, as appropriate, or in conjunction with an *ex-officio cancellation* which may be subject to an appeal process.

**BE IT NOTIFIED AND EXECUTED on this 19<sup>th</sup> day of September 2024.**



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**Valarie Lanza (Mrs.)**  
**ACTING SENIOR DEPUTY REGISTRAR OF SHIPS**  
**BELIZE HEAD OFFICE**

