

## The FTC and Competition Policy within CARICOM



Competition policy has become an increasingly important issue for Jamaica as it moves towards a fully liberalized market economy. The privatization of state entities, the liberalization of previously monopolized sectors and the reduction in trade barriers are all facets of this evolution. Competition is a critical element of this process which lies at the heart of any successful market economy; and is crucial to the protection of consumers' interests and the efficient allocation of resources. Accordingly, competition is also now an integral part of trade policy.

The increasing internationalisation of competition policy poses complex challenges for policymakers and national institutions, especially those of developing countries such as Jamaica. The effect of this internationalisation on Jamaican Competition Policy is twofold. Firstly, the agency is responsible for leading and informing the negotiation of competition issues in trade agreements and secondly, as the world becomes one large market the FTC is expected to deal with more and more cross-border competition matters. It is critical therefore that the FTC build a culture of competition domestically and regionally and this has become one of the primary responsibilities of the FTC.

Of note is that Jamaica is the first country within CARICOM to have established a competition legislation and an agency. In addition, the FTC was integral in the creation of the CARICOM Community Competition Commission which was launched in January 2008 and continues to participate in the sensitization of the CARICOM member states on Competition Policy in the CSME and the Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas. Also, the FTC continues to work with CARICOM on developing further the competition aspects of the Treaty.

### **Fair Trading Commission**

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# CONSULTANCY & TRAINING

*in*

**Competition Law**

*&*

**International Trade**

## FAIR TRADING COMMISSION



## FTC Services

### Consultancy Services:

- Competition Law and Policy
- International Trade Law
- Anti-dumping & Subsidies
- Trade Negotiations

### Training:

- Competition Law Courses
- CLPD accredited Courses
- Trade Negotiation

### Workshops

### Conferences

## Key Personnel

### Dr. Kevin Harriott

Kevin Harriott was appointed to the post of Competition Bureau Chief in July 2005. As head of the Competition Bureau, he participates in the planning, direction and management of the Fair Trading Commission and his responsibilities includes providing the Government and the public with economic analyses of market processes as they relate to antitrust, consumer protection and regulation.



### Dr. Delroy Beckford

Dr. Delroy Beckford is an Attorney-at-Law with practice interests in trade remedies, customs, and international economic law. A Fulbright Scholar, Dr. Beckford is also a Research Fellow at the Division of Global Affairs, Centre for Law and Justice, Rutgers University, Newark, New Jersey, and Co-Founder of the Global Trade Law and Development Centre. He was appointed Senior Legal Counsel in June 2007. Dr. Beckford is a Member of the Jamaican Bar Association and a Member of the American Society of International Law, where he is a Contributing Editor to its publication, International Legal Materials.



## Competition Law Courses

To enhance competition culture in the Caribbean, Fair Trading Competition offers courses in Competition Law and Policy in the Caribbean.

### Who Should Attend?

- Policymakers
- Regulators
- Competition Law Practitioners
- Business persons
- Judges
- Economists
- Attorneys
- Academia

### Introductory Level

#### Course Objectives:

To introduce participants to the objectives of Competition Law and Policy as well as to increase their awareness as to the benefits of competition to suppliers, consumers and the economy.

**Duration:** 3 hours

**Date Offered:** Monthly

#### Course Content:

- What is competition law and policy?
- Objectives and benefits of competition law and policy
- Overview of the main business practices covered under competition law: collusive agreements; mergers and acquisition; restrictive agreements; and abuse of dominance
- Administration and enforcement of competition law
- Interaction between competition authorities and regulatory authorities

### Intermediate Level

#### Course Objectives:

To enhance participants' understanding of the necessary assessment involved in the determination of the competitive effect of business practices.

**Duration:** 16 hours (2 days)

**Dates Offered:** January, April, July, October

#### Course Content:

- Objectives of Competition Law and Policy
- Description of the main business practices covered under competition law: collusive agreements among rivals; mergers and acquisition; restrictive agreements; and abuse of dominance
- The main provisions of the competition legislation in the Caribbean
- Introduction to the Economics of Competition Law
- Evaluation of collusive agreements, mergers and acquisitions, restrictive agreements and abuse of dominance
- Market Power Assessment
- Market Definition
- Overview of the administration and enforcement of competition law