



GUIDANCE TO THE PUBLIC ON PROVIDING INFORMATION ON PERSONS, ENTITIES AND VESSELS WHICH MAY QUALIFY TO BE SUBJECT TO TARGETED FINANCIAL SANCTIONS

The Money Laundering and Terrorism Prevention Act, Cap. 104 (“the MLTPA”) as amended by the Money Laundering and Terrorism (Prevention) (Amendment) Act, Act No. 28 of 2023 aims at protecting all citizens of Belize and the international community from evolving threats posed by terrorists and proliferation actors. These provisions also serve to ensure that Belize’s international obligations in relation to the United Nations Security Council and the Financial Action Task Force¹ are met.

S.68(5C) of the MLTPA provides that where there are reasonable grounds for suspecting that–

- (a) a person or entity–
 - (i) has committed or participated in the commission of a terrorist act; or
 - (ii) is acting on behalf of, at the direction of, or in association with –
 - (aa) a listed person; or
 - (bb) a person or entity that has knowingly committed or participated in the commission of a terrorist act; or
 - (iii) has committed an indictable offence for the benefit of–

¹ <https://www.fatf-gafi.org/en/topics/fatf-recommendations.html> or <https://www.fatf-gafi.org/en/the-fatf/what-we-do.html>

- (aa) a terrorist;
- (bb) a terrorist organisation; or
- (cc) a listed person; or

(b) is owned or controlled directly or indirectly by a listed person,

the Director² shall without delay apply to a Judge for an Order under section 68(5F)(a) in respect of such person or entity.

Similarly, section 68(5E) of the MLTPA provides that where there are reasonable grounds to believe that a vessel subject to the jurisdiction of Belize or found in a port of Belize or harbour of Belize has been involved in–

- (a) activities; or
- (b) the transport of items,

prohibited by UNSCR 1718 (2006), UNSCR 1874 (2009), UNSCR 2087 (2013), UNSCR 2094 (2013) or UNSCR 2270 (2016), the Director shall, without delay, apply to a Judge for an Order under sub-section 68(5F)(a) in respect of such designated vessel.

Persons, entities or vessels against whom an order under Section 68(5F)(a) has been made are subject to asset freezing. Consequently, this has the immediate effect of prohibiting members of the public from certain dealings and/or transactions with the Listed Person and their property or the Listed Vessel.

Should any member of the public have any credible information with respect to persons, entities or vessels which may meet the relevant criteria for designation set out in sections 68(5C) or 68(5E) you may provide the same to the Director of the FIU in writing or via e-mail as follows:

4998 Coney Drive Plaza
Coney Drive
P.O. Box 2197
Belize City, Belize
Tel: + (501) 223 - 2729 / 223-0596
Fax: + (501) 223 – 2531
E-mail: legal@fiubelize.org

NOTICE: This document has been prepared for information purposes only and does not relieve you of any obligation under the laws of Belize. Members of the public should familiarize themselves with the Money Laundering and Terrorism (Prevention) Act, Cap. 104 as amended by the Money Laundering and Terrorism (Prevention) (Amendment) Act, Act No. 28 of 2023 and all other relevant laws. This document is not intended as and does not constitute legal advice. Each case is unique and members of the public should seek the advice of a qualified attorney-at-law with respect to their particular case.

² Director of the Financial Intelligence Unit