



298 Owen Roberts Drive, PO Box 10098  
Grand Cayman KY1-1001, CAYMAN ISLANDS

+1 345 943 7070  
[ciaa@caymanairports.com](mailto:ciaa@caymanairports.com)  
[caymanairports.com](http://caymanairports.com)

## MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### CIAA Plans Full-Scale Emergency Exercise at Grand Cayman Airport

**Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands (27 September 2021)** In accordance with International regulatory requirements, The Cayman Islands Airports Authority (CIAA), which operates the Owen Roberts International Airport (ORIA) on Grand Cayman and the Charles Kirkconnell International Airport (CKIA) on Cayman Brac, will be conducting a Full-Scale Aircraft Emergency Exercise at the Owen Roberts International Airport on Thursday, 30 September 2021.

“These types of exercises are necessary not only to fulfill a Regulatory requirement but also, considering the interruption of aviation business the Pandemic has caused, to give us a chance to test our emergency equipment and the skills of our emergency responders,” said CIAA Chief Management Officer Andrew McLaughlin. “Additionally, this exercise will give the Cayman Islands Coast Guard, as well as the CI Regiment, an opportunity to show off their training in emergency response. The addition of these two entities is expected to greatly enhance our ability to deal with all type of emergencies in the future.”

In light of the Pandemic, the CIAA has enlisted the assistance of Travel Cayman to ensure the procedures used by the emergency responders take into consideration COVID-19 precautions and offer the best use of PPE to protect them while they perform life-saving techniques. Volunteers will play a very important role in creating a realistic scenario, portraying themselves as “victims” of the crash or as first aiders. The exercise will be monitored by the Civil Aviation Authority of the Cayman Islands as well as by appointed experts from each emergency response organisation. There will also be a Security element added to the scenario, which will further stretch resources and test coordination of services.

The CIAA would like to inform the public that there will be a short interruption of traffic on the roads surrounding the airport and asks for your cooperation while the emergency services test their response times to the airport. Early morning traffic will not be impacted, and any disturbance to the public will be kept to a minimum.

To comply with International Standards, the CIAA stages a full-scale emergency exercise at both the Owen Roberts International Airport and the Charles Kirkconnell International Airport every two years in order to test the ability of airport staff and emergency response agencies to work together to form an organized response to save lives and limit damage to property.



**PHOTO SUBMITTED:** The CIAA will be conducting a Full-Scale Aircraft Emergency Exercise at the Owen Roberts International Airport on Thursday, 30 September 2021.

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[Media Contact:](#)

**RHONDA VERHOEVEN**

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AND MARKETING MANAGER

**DIRECT:** +1 345 244 5809

**CELL:** +1 345 925 8651

**E-MAIL:** [rhonda.verhoeven@caymanairports.com](mailto:rhonda.verhoeven@caymanairports.com)