

Biography



Ayana Hull

Head of BVI Private Wealth and Regulatory | British Virgin Islands



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Expertise

Private Wealth, Investment Funds, Regulatory & Tax, Anti money laundering (AML) & terrorist financing compliance, BVI property & real estate, Compliance services, Economic substance in the BVI, Employment, Financial services regulatory advisory, Shipping & aircraft, Tax information exchange

Ayana Hull is head of our Private Wealth and Regulatory practice groups in the BVI. She has over 15 years of experience practising BVI commercial law and provides invaluable support to those seeking to invest or own assets in the BVI, including large scale development and infrastructure projects. Clients rely on her detailed knowledge of BVI legislation, her regulatory and commercial know-how and her strong relationships with government and regulatory bodies. As part of her role as a key advisor to investors into the BVI, she provides guidance on a wide range of matters including, private and commercial property acquisition and disposal, company structuring, trade licences, non-belonger landholding licences, work permits, employment matters and immigration requirements. Ayana also advises on data protection, trademarks and copyright-related matters, as well as on BVI shipping, including registration of new builds, acquisition and finance and charter and crew employment agreements.

Ayana's clients also include banks, insurance companies, funds and fund managers, advising them on restructurings and the impact of BVI regulatory legislation on their investment vehicles. As a member of the firm's FinTech Group, she regularly handles a variety of digital asset related enquiries and advises on the impact of BVI regulatory legislation on virtual asset provider services being structured through BVI companies together with the AML/CTF risks attendant to BVI structures involved in this digital space.

Prior to joining Harneys in 2013, Ayana practised in the corporate, commercial, funds and regulatory areas in the British Virgin Islands. She also acted as in-house counsel to the BVI Financial Services Commission and its regulatory divisions. Ayana is the current chairperson of the BVI Financial Services Commission Securities, Investment Business Act Advisory Committee as well as a member of the BVI Financial Services Commission FinTech Advisory Committee. She is the immediate past Chairman of the National Parks Trust and a past Chairman of the Telecommunications Regulatory Commission. She is also a notary public in the British Virgin Islands.

Outside of her professional life, she is very active in the BVI community and is an author of several books, an avid sport and fine arts enthusiast. She continues to bring awareness to the importance of the financial services industry in the BVI and to this end, she authored Financial Services deMystified, a textbook commissioned by the BVI Government for implementation in BVI secondary schools. She is also the author of the Territorial Song of the Virgin Islands, *Oh Beautiful Virgin Islands!*

Recommendations

- **Legal 500, 2019, 2022 – 2024:** Ayana is recognised as a leading individual in the British Virgin Islands Regulatory & Compliance rankings (2023 – 2024 guides). She was recognised as a next generation partner in the BVI Investment Funds rankings (2022 - 2023 guides), and was recommended in the BVI rankings (2019).
- **IFLR1000, 2021 - 2023:** Ayana is recognised as a highly regarded lawyer.

Bar Admissions

- England and Wales (not practising) 2004
- British Virgin Islands 2004

Education

- Inns of Court School of Law 2004
- University of Cambridge (LLM) 2003
- Florida State University (BSc) 1996