Cayman Islands Government

Apostille Verification System Guide

COMPUTER SERVICES DEPARTMENT

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Introduction

This system is an online register for foreign authorities to be able to verify apostilles issued by the Passport & Corporate Services Office (P&CSO) of the Cayman Islands.

Apostilles

An Apostille authenticates public officials' signatures on documents to be used in countries that participate in the Hague Convention[1]. These stamps supplement a local notarization.

Verification

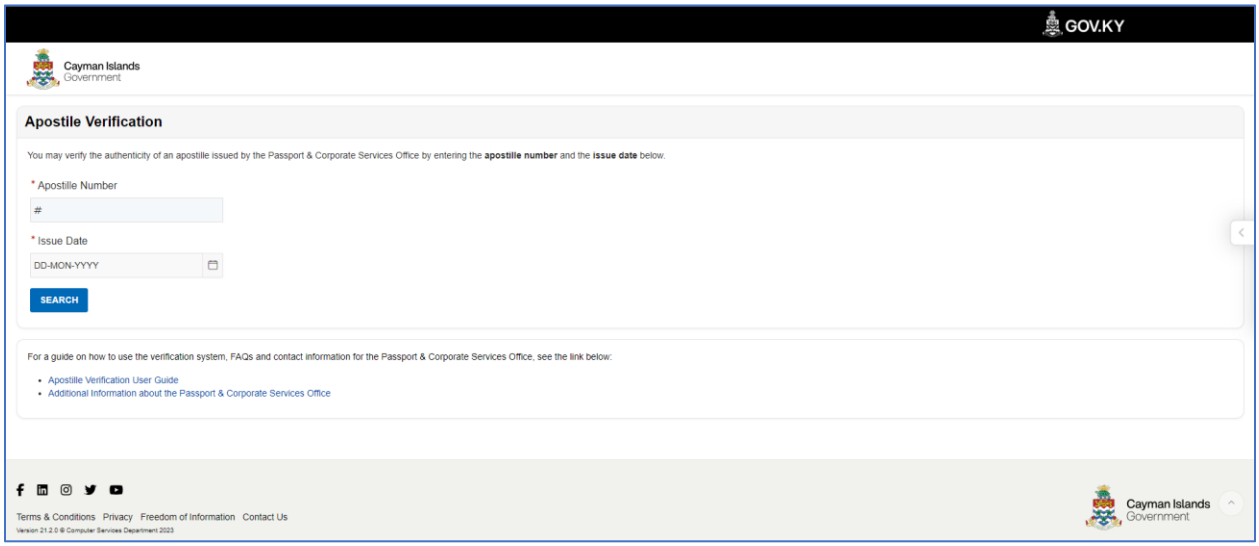
Once a document has been affixed with an apostille, it can be presented to foreign authorities overseas and be recognized accordingly for the intended use. To supplement this, the Hague Conference on Private International Law (HCCH) has recommended that Contracting Parties maintain and provide access to an online register (also known as an e-register) for the recipient of an apostille to be able to verify its authenticity. This register represents partial participation in providing e-Apostille (e-APP) services.

[1] The Convention of 5 October 1961 Abolishing the Requirement of Legalisation for Foreign Public Documents, also known as the Apostille Convention, is an international treaty drafted by the Hague Conference on Private International Law.

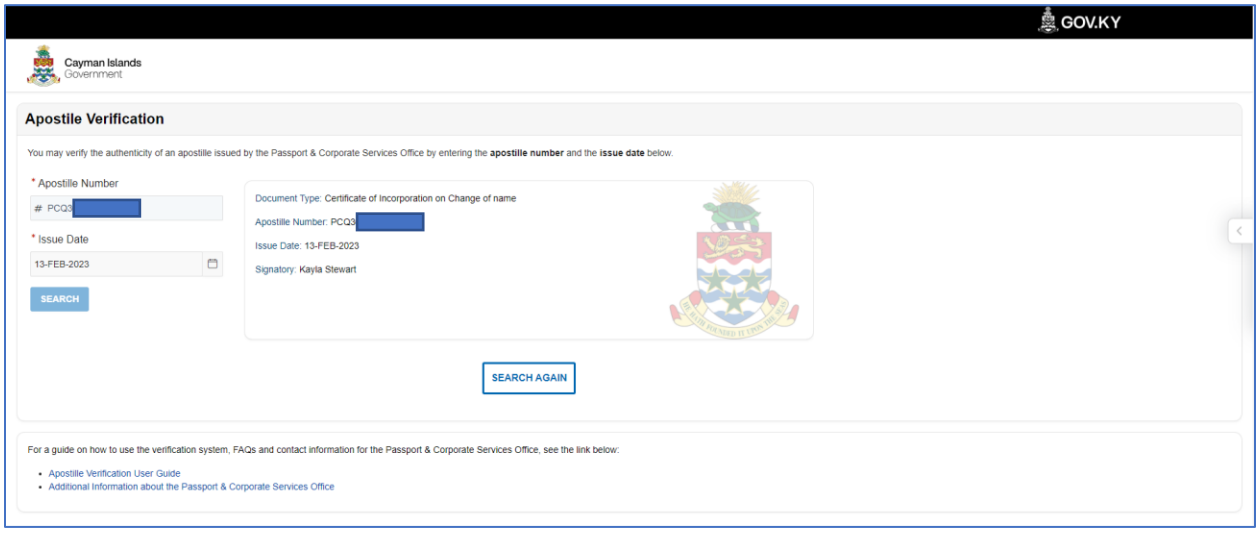
System Guide

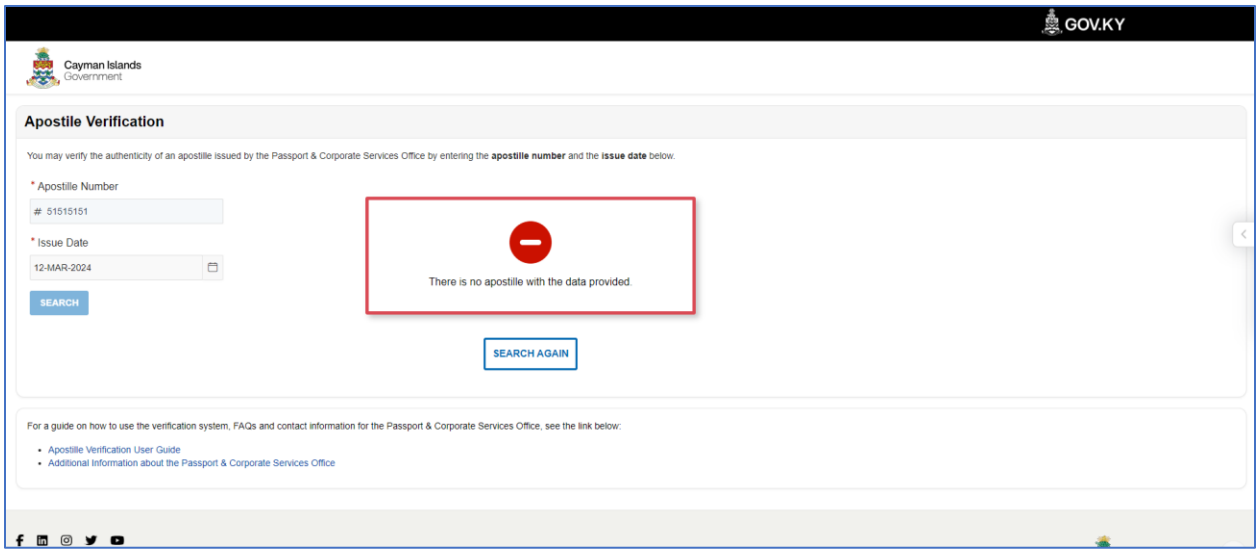
How to Authenticate an Apostille

The system has access to a database of information about apostilles that have been created since February 13, 2023. In order to verify an apostille, users are required to enter the apostille number and issue date that they have received. Users will then need to click the “Search” button to submit the form and complete the query request.



Once the information has been entered and the user has submitted the request using the “Search” button, a report of the results reiterating the details of a valid apostille will be presented or an alert/error message will explain that the record does not exist in the current database of records.





After the search is complete, the “Search” button is disabled. Therefore, users need to click the “Search Again” button in order to complete another search. Without using this button, users will not be able to successfully submit a request to complete any additional searches.