BELIZEAN NATIONALITY ACT
CHAPTER 161

REVISED EDITION 2003
SHOWING THE SUBSIDIARY LAWS AS AT 31ST OCTOBER, 2003

This is a revised edition of the Subsidiary Laws, prepared by the Law Revision Commissioner under the authority of the Law Revision Act, Chapter 3 of the Substantive Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000.

ARRANGEMENT OF SUBSIDIARY LAWS
BELIZE

BELIZE NATIONALITY ACT
CHAPTER 161

REVISED EDITION 2003
SHOWING THE SUBSIDIARY LAWS AS AT 31ST OCTOBER, 2003

This is a revised edition of the Subsidiary Laws, prepared by the Law Revision Commissioner under the authority of the Law Revision Act, Chapter 3 of the Substantive Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000.

This edition contains a consolidation of the following laws-

1. BELIZEAN NATIONALITY REGULATIONS 3-26
CHAPTER 161

BELIZE NATIONALITY REGULATIONS

ARRANGEMENT OF REGULATIONS

1. Title.
2. Application for certificate of citizenship in case of doubt.
3. Grant of certificate.
4. Form of certificate.
5. Application for declaration of resumption.
6. Application for registration of spouse, widow or widower.
7. Registration as citizen.
8. Form of certificate.
10. Oath.
11. Administration of Oath.
12. Illiterate persons.
13. Register.
15. Declaration of retention.
17. Form of application.
18. Fees.
19. Interpretation.

FIRST SCHEDULE

SECOND SCHEDULE
CHAPTER 161

BELIZEAN NATIONALITY REGULATIONS

[12th December, 1981]

1. These Regulations may be cited as the

BELIZEAN NATIONALITY REGULATIONS.

2. (1) An application for a certificate under section 6 of the Act shall be sent to the Director of Immigration and Nationality Services, and the statements in that application shall be supported by affidavit.

(2) The application referred to in paragraph (1) shall, wherever possible, be accompanied by any documentary evidence available to prove the facts set out in the application and material to a decision of the entitlement of citizenship by descent.

(3) The application referred to in paragraph (1) shall be supported by two persons of whom each must be-

(a) intimately acquainted with and have a personal knowledge of the applicant and his family; and

(b) able from his personal knowledge and belief to vouch for the truth of the statements made by the applicant.

3. Before the Minister grants the certificate of citizenship referred to in section 6 of the Act, he may require an applicant for such certificate to supply such further information and proof as the Minister may think necessary.
4. A certificate of citizenship granted under section 6 of the Act, shall, as far as possible, be in accordance with Form A set out in the First Schedule hereto, and such certificate shall not be issued until the prescribed fee is paid.

5. (1) Every application for a declaration by the Minister under section 8-

(a) shall be sent to the Director of Immigration and Nationality Services, and the statement therein shall be supported by affidavit;

(b) shall, wherever possible, be accompanied by any documentary evidence in support of such facts set out in the application, as may be material for a determination of the question as to whether the applicant is entitled to resume the status of a citizen of Belize by descent; and

(c) shall be supported by two persons of whom each must be-

(i) intimately acquainted with and have a personal knowledge of the applicant and his family; and

(ii) able from his personal knowledge and belief to vouch for the truth of the statements made by the applicant.

(2) Before the Minister makes a declaration under section 8 he may require an applicant for such a declaration to furnish such further information and proof as may be necessary.

(3) A declaration of the Minister under section 8 of the Act shall as
far as possible be in accordance with Form B set out in the First Schedule hereto and shall not be issued until the prescribed fee is paid.

6. (1) An application for registration under section 11 shall, as far as possible, be in accordance with Form G set out in the First Schedule hereto.

(2) The prescribed officer for the purposes of section 11 shall be the Director of Immigration and Nationality Services.

7. (1) The statements in any application for registration under section 10 or section 11 of the Act shall be supported by affidavit.

(2) An application for registration under the aforesaid section 10 or section 11 shall, wherever possible, be accompanied by any documentary evidence available to prove the facts set out in the application.

(3) Before the Minister allows an application for registration under the aforesaid section 10 or grants an application for registration under the aforesaid section 11 he may require the applicant to furnish such information and proof as the Minister may think necessary.

(4) An application for registration under the aforesaid section 10 or section 11 shall be supported by two persons, of whom each must be-

(a) intimately acquainted with and have a personal knowledge of the family of the applicant’s mother or of the spouse or of his father, as the case may be; and

(b) able from his personal knowledge and belief to vouch for the truth of the statements made by the applicant.

8. (1) Subject to Regulation 18, a certificate of registration issued to
a person registered under section 10 of the Act shall, as far as possible, be in accordance with Form C set out in the First Schedule hereto, and such certificate shall not be issued unless the prescribed fee is paid.

(2) Subject to Regulation 18, a certificate of registration issued to a person registered under section 11 of the Act shall, as far as possible, be in accordance with Form C set out in the First Schedule hereto, and such certificate shall not be issued unless the prescribed fee is paid.

9. (1) Where a request is made by letter, for the inclusion of the name of a minor child in any certificate of registration granted under section 10 or section 11 of the Act, such letter shall contain the name, sex and date and place of birth of such child, and the statements therein shall be supported by affidavit.

(2) Where a person who has made an application for a declaration under section 8 makes, by subsequent letter, a request for the grant to any minor child of that person the status of a citizen of Belize by descent, he shall state in such letter the name, sex and date and place of birth of such child and those statements shall be supported by affidavit.

10. The oath or affirmation of allegiance shall be made before the grant of the certificate of registration.

11. The oath or affirmation referred to in regulation 10 shall be administered by the Director of Immigration and Nationality Services.

12. Where a person is unable to read or write English, before the oath or affirmation is administered it shall be explained to him by the officer administering it.

13. A register of persons granted citizenship by registration shall be maintained in the office of the Minister, and shall, as far as possible, be in
First Schedule. accordance with Form D set out in the First Schedule hereto.

Declaration of renunciation. 14. (1) A declaration of renunciation of citizenship, under section 18 of the Act, shall as far as possible be in accordance with Form E set out in the First Schedule hereto, and shall be sent to the Minister.

(2) The declaration referred to in paragraph (1) shall be supported by affidavit.

Declaration of retention. First Schedule. 15. (1) A declaration of retention of citizenship under section 8 of the Act, shall, as far as possible be in accordance with Form F set out in the First Schedule hereto, and shall be sent to the Minister.

(2) The declaration referred to in paragraph (1) shall be supported by affidavit.

Prescribed officer. 16. (1) For the purposes of section 11(2) and (3), the Director of Immigration and Nationality Services shall be the prescribed officer.

(2) Where a person notifies renunciation of the citizenship of any other country to the prescribed officer in accordance with the requirements of section 18 or section 19 of the Act, the prescribed officer shall satisfy himself that such renunciation has been duly made and thereupon enter the fact of such renunciation in a register maintained for the purpose at the Ministry. Before the prescribed officer makes such entry in the register, he may require the person concerned to furnish such information and proof as he may think necessary.

Form of application. 17. Every applicant for a certificate under section 6, or for a declaration under section 8, or for registration under section 10 of the Act, shall apply on the appropriate form, obtained from the Department of Immigration and Nationality Services.
18. A person to whom a certificate is granted under these Regulations shall pay a fee according to the rates specified and in the manner set out in the Second Schedule:

Provided that the Minister may, in order to alleviate genuine hardship, waive or reduce the specified fees in the case of a person who has been continuously residing in Belize for a period of ten years or more immediately preceding the date of his application.

19. In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires—

“Act” means the Belizean Nationality Act.

“Minister” means the Minister responsible for citizenship.
FIRST SCHEDULE
FORM A
THE BELIZEAN NATIONALITY ACT
CERTIFICATE OF CITIZENSHIP OF BELIZE GRANTED TO A PERSON WITH RESPECT TO WHOM STATUS AS A CITIZEN OF BELIZE A DOUBT EXISTS

Whereas ........................................ with reference to whose status as a citizen of Belize a doubt exists, has duly applied to the Minister responsible for Nationality Services for a certificate of citizenship as provided for by section 6 of the Belizean Nationality Act alleging with respect to himself (herself) the particulars set out below:

Now therefore in pursuance of the powers conferred on him by the said section 6 and for the purpose of removing the said doubt the Minister responsible for Nationality Services certifies that the said ........................................ is a citizen of Belize and declares that he is entitled to all political and other rights and powers and privileges and is subject to all obligations duties and liabilities to which a citizen of Belize is entitled or subject and has to all intents and purposes the status of a citizen of Belize.

In witness whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name.

Date ................................................. .................................................................

Ministry responsible for Nationality Services        Director of Immigration and Nationality Services.

Particulars relating to Applicant

Full name: .......................................................................................................................................................................

Address: ........................................................................................................................................................................

Trade or occupation: .....................................................................................................................................................

Place and date of birth: ..................................................................................................................................................

Name and nationality of father: ........................................................................................................................................

Name and nationality of mother: ......................................................................................................................................

Claim to citizenship: ....................................................................................................................................................

THE SUBSIDIARY LAWS OF BELIZE

Printed by the Government Printer,
No. 1 Power Lane,
Belmopan, by the authority of
the Government of Belize.

REVISED EDITION 2003
FORM B

THE BELIZEAN ACT

DECLARATION UNDER SECTION 8

WHEREAS ........................................... who ceased under section 18 or 20 of the Belizean Nationality Act to be a citizen of Belize by descent has applied to the Minister for a declaration under section 8 of the Act that he may resume the status of a citizen of Belize by descent, alleging with respect to himself the particulars set out below:

AND WHEREAS the Minister is satisfied that the said ........................... has complied with the requirements of the said section 8:

Now THEREFORE, in pursuance of the powers conferred on him by the said section 8, the Minister responsible declares that, with effect from the date of this declaration, the said ........................... has resumed the status of a citizen of Belize by descent and that he is entitled to all political and other rights, powers and privileges and is subject to all obligations, duties and liabilities to which a citizen of Belize by descent is entitled or subject, and has to all intents and purposes, the status of a citizen of Belize by descent.

In witness whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name.

Date ......................................................................         ...................................................................................................

Ministry for Nationality Services .......................... Director of Immigration and Nationality Services

Belmopan

Particulars relating to applicant

Full name: .......................................................................................................................................................................

Address: ......................................................................................................................................................................

Trade or occupation: ..................................................................................................................................................

Place and date of birth: ..............................................................................................................................................

Name and nationality of father: ....................................................................................................................................

Name and nationality of mother: .................................................................................................................................
FORM B (cont.)

Claim to citizenship by descent: ........................................................................................................................................

Particulars of renunciation of other nationality he possessed: .....................................................................................................

Particulars of minor children: ....................................................................................................................................................

Name: .........................................................................................................................................................................................

Date and place of birth: ..............................................................................................................................................................
FORM C

BELIZEAN NATIONALITY ACT

CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION AS A CITIZEN OF BELIZE

This certificate, which is valid only if it bears the embossed stamp of the issuing authority, confirms that the person named below has been registered as a citizen of BELIZE.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FULL NAME</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME AT BIRTH</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PLACE AND COUNTRY OF BIRTH</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PERMANENT ADDRESS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(IN FULL)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Particulars of minor children

Name ................................................. Sex .................. Date and place of birth ........................................

(EMBOSSMENT SEAL)

ISSUED BY:.................................................. MINISTER.................................................................

................................................. ..........................

Month                                   Year

THE SUBSIDIARY LAWS OF BELIZE [CAP. 161 13]

REVISED EDITION 2003

Printed by the Government Printer,
No. 1 Power Lane,
Belmopan, by the authority of
the Government of Belize.
## FORM D

**THE BELIZEAN NATIONALITY ACT**

**REGISTER OF CITIZENS BY REGISTRATION**

| |  
|---|---|
| Certificate No. and date |  
| Application No. and date |  
| Name |  
| No. of children included in the certificate |  
| Section under which certificate is granted |  
| Date of issue |  
| Initials of issuing officer |  
| Date of oath or affirmation |  
| Remarks (Renunciation, loss, etc.) |  

---

**THE SUBSIDIARY LAWS OF BELIZE**

Printed by the Government Printer,
No. 1 Power Lane,
Belmopan, by the authority of
the Government of Belize.

**REVISED EDITION 2003**
FORM E
THE BELIZEAN NATIONALITY ACT
DECLARATION OF RENUNCIATION OF BELIZEAN CITIZENSHIP

Section 18

In pursuance of the provisions of section 18 of the Belizean Nationality Act, I, ............................................. , the undersigned, to whom the following particulars relate, being a citizen of Belize by descent/registration, hereby declare that I renounce my Belizean Citizenship.

Date: .......................................................................                                           ............................................................

Signature of declarant

Particulars of declarant

1. Full name (in block letters): ............................................................................................................................

2. Address: ............................................................................................................................................................

3. Occupation: ..........................................................................................................................................................

4. Citizenship status: .............................................................................................................................................

5. If married, name and nationality of wife or husband: ....................................................................................


7. Date and place of birth: .......................................................................................................................................}

Affidavit of declarant

I do .........................................................................swear..........................................................................................................................that

solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm

THE SUBSIDIARY LAWS OF BELIZE Printed by the Government Printer, REVISED EDITION 2003
No. 1 Power Lane, Belmopan, by the authority of the Government of Belize.
the foregoing particulars stated in the declaration, are true and that I have made the declaration, pursuant to section 18 of the Belizean Nationality Act that I renounce my Belizean citizenship.

..............................................................

Signature of declarant

Sworn

.............................................. at .................................. this .................................. day of ............................. , 20.....

Before me:

..............................................................

Justice of the Peace or
Commissioner of Oaths
FORM F

THE BELIZEAN NATIONALITY ACT

DECLARATION OF RETENTION OF BELIZEAN CITIZENSHIP

Section 8

In pursuance of the provisions of section 8 of the Belizean Nationality Act, I, ................................................ , the undersigned, to whom the following particulars relate, for the purpose of asserting my Belizean citizenship, hereby declare that I retain the status of a citizen of Belize by descent/registration.

Date: ...........................................................                                          .............................................................................

Signature of declarant

Particulars of declarant

1. Full name (in block letters): ...........................................................................................................................

2. Address: ......................................................................................................................................................

3. Occupation: ..................................................................................................................................................

4. Place and date of birth: .................................................................................................................................

Certificate of registration of birth abroad No. ..........................................................

and date of issue: .................................................................................................................................

5. Particulars of certificate of citizenship granted to father: No. ............................................................

Date of issue: ................................................................

6. If married, name and nationality of wife or husband:

..........................................................................................................................

7. Particulars of children: ...............................................................................................................................
FORM F (cont.)

Affidavit of declarant

I do .................................................. swear .............................................................. that

solemnly, sincerely, and truly declare and affirm

the foregoing particulars stated in the declaration are true and that I have made the declaration, pursuant to
section 8 of the Belizean Nationality Act that I retain the status of a citizen of Belize by descent.

..............................................................

Signature of declarant

Sworn

.................................................. at this............................. day of .................................................., 20...........

Before me:

..................................................

Justice of the Peace

Commissioner of Oaths
FORM G

Application No. ..............................................

Certificate No. ..............................................

THE BELIZEAN NATIONALITY ACT

APPLICATION FOR A CERTIFICATE OF CITIZENSHIP OF BELIZE BY REGISTRATION
BY A PERSON WHO POSSESSES THE SPECIAL QUALIFICATIONS IN SECTION 10 OR 12.

I, the undersigned, to whom the following particulars relate, hereby apply to the Minister for the grant of a Certificate of Citizenship of Belize by Registration under section 10/12 of the above Act. I declare that I am a person of full age and of sound mind and that I am, and intend to continue to be, ordinarily resident in Belize.

I also request that the following name(s) of my minor child(ren) be included in the Certificate of Registration which may be granted to me:

1. .................................................................................................................
2. .................................................................................................................
3. .................................................................................................................
4. .................................................................................................................
5. .................................................................................................................

Date: ............................................................................................................

.......................................................  
Signature of Applicant
FORM G (contd.)

A. Particulars Relating to Applicant

1. Full name: ..........................................................

2. Address: ..........................................................

3. Occupation: ......................................................

4. Date of birth: ....................................................

5. Place of birth: ..................................................

6. (a) Full name of father: ........................................

   (b) Date and place of his birth: ..........................

   (c) Nationality or citizenship status: ..................

7. (a) Full name of mother: ....................................

   (b) Date and place of her birth: .........................

   (c) Nationality or citizenship status: .................

8. Periods of applicant’s residence in Belize:

   From……………………………. to …………………

   From……………………………. to …………………

   From……………………………. to………………

   From……………………………. to………………

   From……………………………. to………………
9. Particulars regarding applicant’s Nationality:
   
   (a) Nationality acquired at birth: .................................................................

   (b) Nationality subsequently acquired (by marriage, naturalisation or otherwise):
       ..............................................................................................................

   (c) Present nationality: ..............................................................................

10. Particulars of minor children:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name (in full)</th>
<th>Sex</th>
<th>Date of birth</th>
<th>Place of birth</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

B. Particulars Relating to Applicant’s Spouse:

11. Date and place of marriage: .................................................................

12. (a) Full name of spouse: ..........................................................................

   (b) Date and place of his (or her) birth: ..................................................

   (c) His (or her) usual place of residence: ..............................................

   (d) His (or her) occupation: ....................................................................
FORM G (cont)

13. If the spouse is a citizen of Belize by descent, state-

   (i)  (a) Full name of spouse’s father: ......................................................

       (b) Date and place of his birth: ......................................................

       (c) His usual place of residence: ......................................................

       (d) His occupation: .................................................................

   (ii) (a) Full name of spouse’s paternal grandfather:

          ............................................................................................

       (b) Date (or approximate year) and place of his birth:

          ............................................................................................

       (c) His usual place of residence: ......................................................

          * (d) His occupation: .................................................................

   (iii) (a) Full name of spouse’s paternal Great Grandfather:

       (b) Date (or approximate year) and place of his birth:

          ............................................................................................

       (c) His usual place of residence: ......................................................

       (d) His occupation: .................................................................

14. If the spouse is a citizen of Belize by registration state:

   * Particulars required herein need be furnished only by an applicant whose father-in-law was born in a country outside Belize.

   (a) Number and Date of the Certificate of Registration: .........................

   (b) Previous Nationality: .............................................................................

   (c) Whether the spouse has, at any time after registration, been absent from Belize for a period of five consecutive years or more.
FORM G (cont)

(If so, state particulars and reasons for such absence abroad):
........................................................................................................................................

15. If the spouse is no longer alive at the time of application state whether applicant has married again: ........................................................................................................

16. If the spouse is dead, give date of death: ........................................................................

C-Affidavit

(To be made by the applicant in support of the Application)

I do ........................................................................... swear ................................................................ that

solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm

the foregoing particulars stated in this application are true; and I make this statement conscientiously believing the same to be true.

..................................................

Signature

Sworn

................................................. at ....................... this day of ..............................................

Affirmed

A Justice of the Peace

Before me: .................................  A Commissioner of Oaths

D-Declarations by Persons Supporting Application

* I, ........................................................... hereby state that I am a citizen of Belize, and that I am

intimately acquainted with and have a personal knowledge of the applicant’s spouse and

his or her family over a period of .............. years. I can from my personal knowledge and

belief vouch for the truth of the statements made by the applicant.

...........................................................................

Signature

* Insert full name in BLOCK letters.
FORM G (cont)

Full Postal Address: ....................................................................................................................

Occupation: ................................................................................................................................

Date: .............................................................................................................................................

I, *…………………………………….. hereby state that I am a citizen of Belize, and that I am intimately acquainted with and have a personal knowledge of the applicant’s spouse and his or her family over a period of ………. years. I can from my personal knowledge and beliefs vouch for the truth of the statements made by the applicant.

...................................................

Signature

Full Postal Address: ....................................................................................................................

Occupation: ................................................................................................................................

Date: .............................................................................................................................................

NOTE:

1. The statements in the application should be supported by an affidavit (Section C) made by the applicant before a Justice of the Peace or a Commissioner of Oaths.

2. There should be forwarded with the application any documentary evidence available to prove the facts set out therein, particularly those stated in Column 11, 12(b) and 13 (i) (b) and 13 (ii) (b) of Section B.

3. The application should be supported by two persons (Section D) each of whom must be-

   (a) intimately acquainted with and have a personal knowledge of the applicant’s spouse and his or her family; and

   (b) able from his personal knowledge and belief to vouch for the truth of the statements made by the applicant.

* Insert full name in BLOCK letters.
FORM G (cont)

4. The applicant may be required by the Minister to supply such further information and proof as the Minister may think necessary.

5. The prescribed fee is payable before the issue of a certificate under section 11.

6. Under Section 26 (1) of the Belizean Nationality Act, a person who is a citizen of any country other than Belize under any law in force in that country cannot be granted citizenship by registration unless he renounces citizenship of that country in accordance with that law.

7. A person who, for the purposes of procuring anything under this Act, makes any statement which he knows to be false in a material particular is guilty of an offence which is punishable with imprisonment for a term not exceeding twelve months.

8. The application should be sent to the Director of Immigration and Nationality Services.
### SECOND SCHEDULE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Matter in which fee may be taken</th>
<th>Amount of fee</th>
<th>To whom fee is to be paid</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Registration as a citizen of Belize under section 10 or section 11</td>
<td>$300.00</td>
<td>To the Accountant General for the general revenue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inclusion of the name of a minor child by subsequent letter under section 12</td>
<td>$100.00 per child</td>
<td>To the Accountant General for the general revenue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certificate of citizenship in case of doubt under section 6</td>
<td>$100.00</td>
<td>To the Accountant General for the general revenue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resumption of citizenship by descent under section 8</td>
<td>$40.00</td>
<td>To the Accountant General for the general revenue</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>