



**HIGGS & JOHNSON**

Counsel & Attorneys-at-Law

**PARTNERS SPEAK AT THE STEP CARIBBEAN  
CONFERENCE IN SAN JUAN**



Higgs & Johnson partners Ms. Heather L Thompson (pictured left) and Mrs. Christel Sands-Feaste (pictured right) gladly accepted the offer by STEP (The Society of Trust & Estate Parishioners) to speak at the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Caribbean Conference, held May 4 – 6, 2009, under the theme 'Leading in Turbulent Times'.

Ms. Thompson was one of four expert panelists for the breakout session 'Transfer of Trustees: Lessons from the Experts'. She elaborated on the trustee's lien over trust property, indemnity and indemnity insurance. Ms. Thompson noted, "During my presentation, I focused on the fact that trustees often overlook the existence of the lien and also, on the practical difficulties, expense and delays which may be encountered when chains of indemnities are used."

Mrs. Sands-Feaste presented on 'Trust Contributions: How should these be treated – as loans, investments or otherwise?' Christel considered the pros and cons of each method and examined the issues that can arise from the various forms of treatment. Christel noted, "It is always a pleasure to speak at the STEP Caribbean Conference. This is undoubtedly one of the largest gatherings of trust professionals from around the world hosted in this region".

Higgs & Johnson saw this as a valuable opportunity to showcase The Bahamas. Ms. Thompson is scheduled to speak at the STEP Canada conference this June on Asset Protection Trusts in The Bahamas.