



**Reference
Biography
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HER EXCELLENCY DAME IVY DUMONT FORMER GOVERNOR-GENERAL

Dame Ivy Dumont (nee Turnquest) retired as the first female Governor-General of The Commonwealth of The Bahamas on February 1, 2006. The Queen appointed her to the post of Governor-General on January 1, 2002. Dame Ivy had assumed office as Acting Governor-General on November 13, 2001, in succession to Sir Orville Turnquest.

The sixth Governor-General in an independent Bahamas, Dame Ivy was born on October 2, 1930, at Rose's, Long Island, The Bahamas, and received her early education in schools at Roses and Buckley's, Long Island.

She attended the Government High School in New Providence from 1942 to 1948, The Bahamas Teachers' Training College from 1950 to 1951, the University of Miami from 1968 to 1970, and Nova University (part time) from 1976 to 1978.

She received her Cambridge Junior Certificate in 1946, the Cambridge Senior in 1947, a Teacher's Training Certificate in 1951 and an Associate of the College of Preceptors in 1952. In 1954 she received The Bahamas Teacher's Certificate. She spent six months in the United States on a Fulbright Grant between 1962 and 1963, and in 1965 received a General Certificate of Education A-Level pass in literature from the Teacher's Union Institute. She also undertook various public-service courses over the years, including basic accounting and personnel administration.

A founding member and Secretary General of The Bahamas Union of Teachers, she served in the Ministry of Education and Culture between 1948 and 1975 as a student teacher, a class teacher, head-teacher, education officer and deputy director of education.

She served as Deputy Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Works and Utilities from 1975 to 1978. In 1978 she joined Roy West Trust Corporation (Bahamas) Limited/NatWest International Trust Holding Limited, and held the positions of training officer, assistant manager, personnel and manager, group relations.

Dame Ivy also served as secretary-general of the Free National Movement (FNM).

She was appointed to the Senate and sworn in as Minister of Health and Environment on August 24, 1992, following the FNM's victory in the August 19 general election. Dame

Ivy was appointed Minister of Education and Training on January 9, 1995. She was reappointed Minister of Education on March 18, 1997, following the FNM's victory in the March 14 general election.

She holds membership in Emmanuel Gospel Chapel, Sisters Fellowship of the Assemblies of Brethren in The Bahamas, Women's Aglow Fellowship International, the Bahamas Humane Society and the American Management Association. She is a Bible-education facilitator, an accomplished seamstress and occasional gardener.

She is married to Reginald Dean Dumont (now deceased), a retired police inspector and prices control inspector. They have one living child, Edda.