



35th Legislature of the Virgin Islands

REVISED SENATE CALENDAR

May 13, 2024 – May 24, 2024

**MONDAY,
MAY 13, 2024**

**PRESIDENT: SENATOR NOVELLE E. FRANCIS, JR.
VICE PRESIDENT: SENATOR MARVIN A. BLYDEN**

The Committee of the Whole

10:00 A.M.

Frits E. Lawaetz Legislative Conference Room

The Thirty-Fifth Legislature will convene in a Committee of the Whole Hearing to receive testimony on the following zoning requests:

Bill No. [35-0244](#) An Act amending Official Zoning Map No. SCZ-10 to rezone Plots No. 126A, 126B, 126C, 126CA, 127E Combined, and 212 Estate Two Brothers, Smithfield and Hesselberg, West End Quarter, St. Croix, Virgin Islands, from W-1 (WaterfrontPleasure) to R-3 (Residential-Medium Density)

Invited Testifiers:

Honorable Jean-Pierre L. Oriol, Commissioner, VI Department of Planning and Natural Resources

Leia LaPlace-Matthew, Territorial Planner, VI Department of Planning and Natural Resources

Chris Richardson, Owner/President, Roncan, Inc. Hera Psaros, Representative

Bill No. [35-0260](#) An Act amending Official Zoning Map No. SCZ-12 for the island of St. Croix, Virgin Islands rezoning Plot No. 6, Parcel 6 of Estate Clifton Hill, Kings Quarter, St. Croix from R-2 (Residential-Low Density-One and Two Family) to B-3 (Business Scattered)

Invited Testifiers:

Honorable Jean-Pierre L. Oriol, Commissioner, VI Department of Planning and Natural Resources

Leia LaPlace-Matthew, Territorial Planner, VI Department of Planning and Natural Resources

Hubert H. Watty, MD, Applicant

The Committee of the Whole will receive testimony from the Election System of the Virgin Islands and the Virgin Islands Board of Elections on the District Court's ruling on the unconstitutionality of sections in Title 18 Virgin Islands Code, specifically §232; §301(a); §303(a-c); §304(a); §305; §306(a); §307; and §342.

Invited Testifiers:

Caroline Fawkes, CERA, Supervisor, Election System of the Virgin Islands

Alecia Wells, CERA, Chairwoman, Virgin Islands Board of Elections

**TUESDAY,
MAY 14, 2024**

**CHAIR: SENATOR KENNETH L. GITTENS
VICE CHAIR: SENATOR RAY FONSECA**

**Committee on Homeland Security,
Justice and Public Safety
10:00 A.M.
Frits E. Lawaetz Legislative Conference Room**

Please be advised that the 35th Legislature's Committee on Homeland Security, Justice, & Public Safety has scheduled a legislative committee hearing for 10:00 a.m. Tuesday, May 14, 2024, in the Frits E. Lawaetz Legislative Conference Room, on St. Croix. The Committee is expected to receive testimony on several bills.

The agenda is as follows:

BLOCK I

10:00 A.M.

Bill No. [35-0248](#) A Resolution petitioning United States Congress to amend the Revised Organic Act of the Virgin Islands to authorize the people of the Virgin Islands to elect the Attorney General of the Virgin Islands.

Invited Testifiers:

Gordon Rhea, Attorney General Nominee, V.I. Department of Justice
Julie Smith-Todman, Chief Public Defender, Office of the Territorial Public Defender
Marjorie Whalen, President, V.I. Bar Association

LUNCH

12:30 P.M.

BLOCK II

1:30 P.M.

Bill No. [35-0238](#) An Act to confer peace officer status on qualified enforcement officers employed by the Government Employees Retirement System of the Virgin Islands.

Invited Testifiers:

Honorable Ray Martinez, Commissioner, Virgin Islands Police Department
Angel L. Dawson, Jr., Administrator, Government Employees Retirement System

BLOCK III**2:30 P.M.**

Bill No. [35-0215](#) An Act amending title 23 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 5, section 457, subsection (a), paragraph (3), relating to the contents of a firearm license to change the statement in the license increasing the term of the license from three years to five years.

Invited Testifier:

Honorable Ray Martinez, Commissioner, Virgin Islands Police Department

Bill No. [35-0243](#) An Act amending title 23 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 5, section 470 to require individuals to obtain permission from the Commissioner of the Virgin Islands Police Department before purchasing firearm components that will be mailed or shipped to the Virgin Islands.

Invited Testifiers:

Honorable Ray Martinez, Commissioner, V.I. Police Department

Gordon Rhea, Attorney General Nominee, V.I. Department of Justice

Eric Oram, Postal Inspector, United States Postal Service

Levi MacSheen, Firearms Dealer, Star Time Firearms

Bill No. [35-0250](#) An Act amending title 23 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 5, by adding section 454b banning assault rifles in the Virgin Islands.

Invited Testifiers:

Honorable Ray Martinez, Commissioner, V.I. Police Department

Gordon Rhea, Attorney General Nominee, V.I. Department of Justice

Eric Oram, Postal Inspector, United States Postal Service

Levi MacSheen, Firearms Dealer, Star Time Firearms

**WEDNESDAY,
MAY 15, 2024**

CONSTITUENT MEETINGS AND OFFICE WORK

Reserved

**THURSDAY,
MAY 16, 2024**

**CHAIR: SENATOR MARISE C. JAMES
VICE CHAIR: SENATOR DONNA A. FRETT-GREGORY**

**Committee on Education
and Workforce Development**

10:00 A.M.

Frits E. Lawaetz Legislative Conference Room

Committee on Education and Workforce Development scheduled for Thursday, May 16, 2024, at 10:00 AM, in the Frits E. Lawaetz Legislative Conference Room, St. Croix.

BLOCK I

The Committee will receive a status update from the Virgin Islands Department of Labor, the Virgin Islands State Workforce Development Board the Virgin Islands Career and Technical Education Board, the Division of Personnel, and the Office of Collective Bargaining regarding their organization's role in the workforce development system in the Virgin Islands, specifically addressing recruitment and retention of employees, employment opportunities in the Virgin Islands Government, workforce development programs and the services provided to help people find, prepare for, and maintain employment.

Invited Testifiers:

Honorable Gary Molloy, Commissioner, Virgin Islands Department of Labor.

Michael Carty, Chairman, VI State Workforce Development Board

Joane Murphy, Chairwoman, Virgin Islands Career & Technical Education Board

Cindy L. Richardson, Director, Virgin Islands Division of Personnel

Joss N. Springette, Esq., Chief Negotiator, Office of Collective Bargaining

BLOCK II**Bill No. [35-0240](#)**

An Act transferring the administration of the Government Insurance Fund from the Commissioner of the Virgin Islands Department of Finance to the Commissioner of Virgin Islands Department of Labor and amending various sections of title 24 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 11 to facilitate better recovery for injury or disease that arises out of and in the course of employment in the Virgin Islands under the Workers' Compensation Administration, and to ensure that workers entitled to Workers' Compensation benefits receive medical coverage, rehabilitation services, and disability compensation without undue delay by merging the benefits and payment components of the Workers' Compensation Insurance Program.

Invited Testifiers:

Honorable Kevin McCurdy, Commissioner, Virgin Islands Department of Finance

Honorable Gary Molloy, Commissioner, Virgin Islands Department of Labor

**FRIDAY,
MAY 17, 2024**

CONSTITUENT MEETINGS AND OFFICE WORK

Reserved

**MONDAY,
MAY 20, 2024**

**CHAIR: SENATOR CARLA J. JOSEPH
VICE CHAIR: SENATOR JAVAN E. JAMES, SR.**

**Committee on Government Operations,
Veterans Affairs and Consumer Protection
10:00 A.M.
Earle B. Otley Legislative Hall**

The Committee on Government Operations, Veterans Affairs, and Consumer Protection has scheduled a meeting for 10:00 a.m. on Monday, May 20, 2024 in the Earle B. Ottley Legislative Hall on St. Thomas. The purpose of the meeting is to receive testimony and consider the following legislative measures:

BLOCK I

10:00 A.M. – 11:30 A.M.

Bill No. [35-0236](#) An Act amending title 3 Virgin Islands Code adding a new chapter 33A to enact the “21st Century Integrated Digital Experience Act (IDEA)” to improve governmental agency digital services, and for other purposes.

Invited Testifiers:

Rupert O. Ross, Director, Virgin Islands Bureau of Information Technology

Julien Henley, ADA Coordinator, Government of the Virgin Islands

Angus Drigo, Executive Director, Disability Rights Center of the Virgin Islands

Stephan Adams, CEO/President, Virgin Islands Next Generation Network

BLOCK II

11:30 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.

Bill No. [35-0230](#) An Act repealing section 11 of Act No. 6570, as amended, and amending title 20 Virgin Islands Code related to the inspection and licensing of automobiles for hire.

Invited Testifiers:

Barbara Jackson-McIntosh, Director, Virgin Islands Bureau of Motor Vehicles

Vernice M. Gumbs, Executive Director, Virgin Islands Taxicab Commission

Willis Pinney, President, AAA Taxi and Tours

Dihony LaLanne, President, St. Thomas Taxi Services

Kerry Harrigan, President, Best Taxi Services

Shawn Claxton, President, St. John Taxi Services

Kelly George, Owner, Kellie’s Taxi Services

Lawrence Ramdhansingh, President, Virgin Islands Taxi Association

Mervin Smith, President, East End Taxicab Association

Francis Arthur, President, St. Croix Taxicab Association

Elizabeth Hansen-Watley, Interim Chair, Virgin Islands Taxicab Commission Board

LUNCH

1:00 P.M. – 2:00 P.M.

BLOCK III**2:00 P.M. – 3:30 P.M.**

Bill No. [35-0193](#) An Act amending title 27 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 15 relating to real estate brokers, sales associates, and property managers.

Invited Testifiers:

Laurent Alfred, Esq., Chair, Virgin Islands Real Estate Commission

Dan Savaro, President, Virgin Islands Territorial Association of Realtors

Ava Gail Bourdon, President-Principal Broker, RE/MAX St. Croix

Carl Gotts, Vice-President, Vacation St. Croix

Honorable H. Nathalie Hodge, Commissioner, Virgin Islands Department of Licensing and Consumer Affairs

B.J. Harris, Vice-Chair, V.I. Department of Licensing and Consumer Affairs Real Estate Commission

**TUESDAY,
MAY 21, 2024**

**CHAIR: SENATOR DONNA A. FRETT-GREGORY
VICE CHAIR: SENATOR NOVELLE E. FRANCIS, JR.**

**Committee on Budget,
Appropriations and Finance**

10:00 A.M.

Frits E. Lawaetz Legislative Conference Room

**WEDNESDAY,
MAY 22, 2024**

**CHAIR: SENATOR MARVIN A. BLYDEN
VICE CHAIR: SENATOR MARISE C. JAMES**

**Committee on Housing, Transportation
and Telecommunications**

TOUR: Housing Communities

St. Croix, Virgin Islands

**THURSDAY,
MAY 23, 2024**

**PRESIDENT: SENATOR NOVELLE E. FRANCIS, JR.
VICE PRESIDENT: SENATOR MARVIN A. BLYDEN**

**Older Americans Month: Senior Mock Session
10:00 A.M.
Earle B. Ottery Legislative Hall**

**FRIDAY,
MAY 24, 2024**

**CHAIR: SENATOR DIANE T. CAPEHART
VICE CHAIR: SENATOR MILTON E. POTTER**

**Committee on Rules and Judiciary
12:00 P.M.
Frits E. Lawaetz Legislative Conference Room**
