

35<sup>th</sup> Legislature of the Virgin Islands SENATE CALENDAR September 04, 2023 – September 15, 2023

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 04, 2023

Labor Day

Holiday

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 05, 2023

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

Committee on Budget, Appropriations, and Finance 9:00 A.M. Earle B. Ottley Legislative Hall

The Committee on Budget, Appropriations, and Finance will meet on Tuesday, September 5, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. in the Earle B. Ottley Legislative Chamber to receive close out testimony from the Governor's Financial Team on the proposed Fiscal Year 2024 Executive Budget for the Government of the Virgin Islands of the United States.

### **Invited Testifiers:**

Ms. Jenifer O'Neal, Director, Office of Management and Budget
Mr. Kevin McCurdy, Commissioner Nominee, Department of Finance
Mr. Joel Lee, Director, V.I. Bureau of Internal Revenue
Mr. Ira R. Mills, Tax Assessor, Office of the Lieutenant Governor
Mr. Brent Leerdam, Tax Collector, Office of the Lieutenant Governor
Ms. Cindy Richardson, Director, Division of Personnel
Ms. Joss Springette, Esq., Chief Negotiator, Office of Collective Bargaining

### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 06, 2023

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

Committee on Budget, Appropriations, and Finance 9:00 A.M. Earle B. Ottley Legislative Hall

The Committee on Budget, Appropriations, and Finance has scheduled a meeting for Wednesday, September 6, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. in the Earle B. Ottley Legislative Chambers on St. Thomas, to receive testimony on the proposed Fiscal Year 2024 Executive Budget for the Government of the Virgin Islands of the United States

### AGENDA:

### **BLOCK I – Appropriation Transfers**

Appropriation Transfer No. 001-2023 Appropriation Transfer No. 003-2023 Appropriation Transfer No. 004-2023 Appropriation Transfer No. 005-2023 Appropriation Transfer No. 007-2023 Appropriation Transfer No. 008-2023 Appropriation Transfer No. 009-2023 Appropriation Transfer No. 010-2023 Appropriation Transfer No. 011-2023

- V.I. Department of Planning and Natural Resources
- V.I. Department of Human Services
- V.I. Department of Health
- V.I. Office of Management and Budget
- V.I. Department of Public Works
- V.I. Department of Labor
- V.I. Department of Property and Procurement
- V.I. Department of Education
- V.I. Department of Justice

### **Invited Testifiers:**

Ms. Jenifer O'Neal, Director, V.I. Office of Management and Budget Honorable Jean-Pierre Oriol, Commissioner, V.I. Department of Planning and Natural Resources Honorable Kimberly Causey-Gomez, Commissioner, V.I. Department of Human Services Honorable Justa "Tita" Encarnacion, Commissioner, V.I. Department of Health Honorable Derek Gabriel, Commissioner, V.I. Department of Public Works Honorable Gary Molloy, Commissioner, V.I. Department of Labor Honorable Lisa Alejandro, Commissioner, V.I. Department of Property and Procurement Honorable Dr. Dionne Wells-Hedrington, Commissioner, V.I. Department of Education Ms. Ariel Smith, Esq., Attorney General, V.I. Department of Justice

- **Bill No.** <u>35-0067</u> An Act approving and the lease agreement between the Government of the Virgin Islands, acting through its Commissioner of the Department of Property and Procurement, and Inter Island Auto Group, LLC d/b/a VIP Quick Lube for Improved Parcel No. 70 Submarine Base, No. 6A Southside Quarter, St. Thomas, Virgin Islands, to be used as a new and used car dealership, repair shop, importer of goods, retail shops, store, and for other related purposes
- Bill No. <u>35-0095</u> An Act approving the Lease Agreement between the Government of the Virgin Islands, acting through its Commissioner of the Department of Property and Procurement, and Dave Jeffers d/b/a Dave Trucking Service for Parcel No. 142-B Estate Anna's Retreat, No. 1 New Quarter, St. Thomas, Virgin Islands, consisting of approximately 6, 627.393 U.S. sq. ft. or 0.144 U.S. acre zoned "P" as shown on O.L.G. File No. D9-8646-T012 to be used for the purpose of operating the general offices of the trucking company and for other related purposes
- **Bill No.** <u>35-0104</u> An Act approving the Lease Agreement between the Government of the Virgin Islands, acting through the Commissioner of the Department of Property and Procurement, and Roncan, Inc. d/b/a Sand Castle on the Beach to lease Plot No. 128-B Two Brothers, Smithfield, and Hesselberg, West End Quarter and Plot No. 129 Two Brothers, Smithfield, and Hesselberg, West End Quarter, St. Croix, Virgin Islands

### Invited Testifiers:

Honorable Lisa Alejandro, Commissioner, V.I. Department of Property and Procurement
Mr. Pablo H. Padro, Owner, Interisland Auto Group
Mr. Dave Jeffers, Owner, Dave's Trucking
Mr. Chris Richardson, Stockholder, Roncan, Inc.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 07, 2023

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

Committee on Disaster Recovery, Infrastructure and Planning 9:30 A.M. Earle B. Ottley Legislative Hall

The Committee on Disaster Recovery, Infrastructure, and Planning has scheduled a meeting for Thursday September 7, 2023 at **9:30 a.m. in the Earle B. Ottley Legislative Hall on St. Thomas** to consider the following:

BLOCK I

The committee will receive an update from, and discuss, the Virgin Islands Waste Management Authority (VIWMA)'s planned, in-process, and completed projects; the status of all federal and local funding identified for VIWMA's projects, as well as challenges the authority has encountered with respect to its' role in the territory's disaster recovery efforts.

#### **Invited Testifier:**

Mr. Roger Merritt, Executive Director, VI Waste Management Authority

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### **BLOCK II**

The committee will receive an update from, and discuss, the **Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority (WAPA)**'s planned, in-process, and completed projects; the status of all federal and local funding identified for WAPA's projects, as well as challenges the authority has encountered with respect to its' role in the territory's disaster recovery efforts.

#### Invited Testifier:

Mr. Andrew Smith, Executive Director, VI Water and Power Authority

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 08, 2023

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

Committee on Budget, Appropriations, and Finance 9:00 A.M. Earle B. Ottley Legislative Hall

The 35<sup>th</sup> Legislature's Committee on Budget, Appropriations and Finance will meet Friday, September 08, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. in the Earle B. Ottley Legislative Hall on St. Thomas, Virgin Islands.

## **BUDGET MARKUP**

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2023 1:00 P.M.

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

Committee on Budget, Appropriations, and Finance 9:00 A.M. Earle B. Ottley Legislative Hall

The 35<sup>th</sup> Legislature's Committee on Budget, Appropriations and Finance will meet Monday, September 11, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. in the Earle B. Ottley Legislative Hall on St. Thomas, Virgin Islands.

### TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2023

### 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 35<sup>th</sup> Legislature's Committee on Homeland Security, Justice, & Public Safety has scheduled a legislative committee hearing for 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, September 12, 2023 in the Frits E. Lawaetz Legislative Conference Room on St. Croix. The Committee is expected to receive testimony from the Bureau of Corrections (BOC) and updates from the Virgin Islands Territorial Management Agency (VITEMA) and supporting agencies, relative to preparation for the current hurricane season. This is an in-person hearing.

**Bill No.** <u>35-0045</u> An Act amending title 5 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 407 relating to eligibility for parole by adding section 4601a to establish Medical Parole as a basis for parole; further amending title 5 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 407 by adding section 4601b to establish Geriatric Parole as a basis for parole and for other related purposes.

### **Invited Testifier:**

Ms. Wynnie Testamark, Director, V.I. Bureau of Corrections Mr. Dennis Howell, Chairman, V.I. Parole Board

BOC officials are also expected to give testimony pursuant to a subpoena dated August 4, 2023. Testimony should include matters related to inmates remanded to the care, custody and control of the Bureau who are housed at off-island facilities. Specifically, about the Bureau's director or staff's visits to the facility and inmates, availability of academic and vocational programs and other related topics.

#### **BLOCK II**

The Committee is expected to receive testimony from the Virgin Islands Territorial Emergency Management Agency and supporting agencies relative to the state of readiness as we enter the peak of the 2023 Hurricane Season. Topics of discussions will include infrastructure, shelters, emergency housing, public safety and more.

Invited Testifiers: Honorable Ray Martinez, Commissioner, V.I. Police Department Honorable Daryl Jaschen, Director, VITEMA MG Kodjo S. Knox-Limbacker, Adjutant General, V.I. National Guard Honorable Kimberly Causey-Gomez, Commissioner, Department of Human Services Honorable Daryl A. George, Director, V.I. Fire/EMS Honorable Derek Gabriel, Commissioner, Department of Public Works

### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2023

## CHAIR: SENATOR JAVAN E. JAMES, SR. VICE CHAIR: SENATOR ANGEL L. BOLQUES, JR.

Committee on Economic Development and Agriculture 10:00 A.M. Earle B. Ottley Legislative Hall

The Committee on Economic Development and Agriculture has scheduled a meeting for **Wednesday**, **September 13, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. at the Earle B. Ottley Legislative Hall** on the island of St. Thomas. The Committee will receive a status update from the Office of Cannabis Regulations (OCR), and the Virgin Islands Department of Agriculture.

### 1:00 P.M.

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12:30 P.M. - 1:00 P.M.

10:00 A.M.

1:00 P.M.

The Committee will receive an update on the overall status of the Virgin Islands Department of Agriculture.

The Committee will receive an update on the overall status of the USVI Office of Cannabis Regulations (OCR).

Ms. Nathalie Hodge, Commissioner Nominee, Virgin Islands Department of Licensing and Consumer Affairs

# Invited Testifier:

Dr. Louis Petersen, Commissioner Nominee, Virgin Islands Department of Agriculture

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2023

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

Committee on Rules and Judiciary 9:30 A.M. Frits E. Lawaetz Legislative Conference Room

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2023

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

#### **Ms. Hannah Carty,** Executive Director, Virgin Islands Cannabis Advisory Board **Dr. Catherine Kean,** Chairwoman of the Cannabis Advisory Board, Virgin Islands Cannabis Advisory Board

**Invited Testifiers:** 

**BLOCK I** 

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**BLOCK II** 

1:00 F

Regular Session 10:00 A.M. Earle B. Ottley Legislative Hall