



## 36<sup>th</sup> Legislature of the Virgin Islands

**REVISED - SENATE CALENDAR**

**September 08, 2025 – September 19, 2025**

**MONDAY,  
SEPTEMBER 08, 2025**

**CHAIR: SENATOR CARLA J. JOSEPH  
VICE CHAIR: SENATOR KENNETH L. GITTENS**

**Committee on Rules and Judiciary  
10:00 A.M.  
Frits E. Lawaetz Legislative Conference Room**

The 36th Legislature of the Virgin Islands Committee on Rules and Judiciary has scheduled a hearing for **10:00 A.M. on Monday, September 08, 2025, in the Frits E. Lawaetz Legislative Conference Room on St. Croix.** 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.**

**Mr. Roy Moorehead**, Governor's Nominee, Board of Parole

**Mr. Damian M. Cartwright**, Governor's Nominee, Virgin Islands Board of Land Use Appeals

**BLOCK II** **11:30 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.**

**Mr. Xavier A. Acevedo**, Governor's Nominee, Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority Governing Board

**Dr. Safiya George**, Governor's Nominee, Virgin Islands Government Hospitals and Health Facilities Corporation Board of Directors

**LUNCH** **1:00 P.M. – 2:00 P.M.**

**BLOCK III** **2:00 P.M. – 3:30 P.M.**

**Bill No. 36-0101** An act to provide for continuity of operations in the Superior Court of the Virgin Islands in the event of prolonged judicial vacancies.

**Invited Testifiers:**

**Ms. Regina deChabert Petersen**, Administrator of the Courts, Judicial Branch of the Virgin Islands

**Mr. J. Russel B. Pate, Esq.**, President, Virgin Islands Bar Association

**Honorable Gordon C. Rhea, Esq.**, Attorney General, Department of Justice

**Ms. Julie S. Todman, Esq.**, Chief Territorial Public Defender, V.I. Office of the Territorial Public Defender

**BLOCK IV****3:30 P.M. – 5:00 P.M.**

**Bill No. [36-0112](#)** An act amending title 4 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 31, section 516 increasing the filing fee for general civil complaints in the Superior Court of the Virgin Islands and title 5 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 41, section 426 allowing for the collection of nine percent prejudgment interest when an offer of judgment is filed with the court.

**Invited Testifiers:**

**Ms. Regina deChabert Petersen**, Administrator of the Courts, Judicial Branch of the Virgin Islands

**Mr. J. Russel B. Pate, Esq.**, President, Virgin Islands Bar Association

**BLOCK V****4:00 P.M. – 5:00 P.M.**

**Bill No. [36-0144](#)** An act amending title 14 Virgin Islands Code, Chapter 113 to define and prohibit assault rifles, ban suppressors and silencers, and requiring safety training for licensed rifles and shotgun holders; prohibiting large capacity magazines and preventing the illegal sales of firearms, firearm accessories and ammunition.

**Invited Testifier:**

**Mr. Kosei Ohno**, VI Safe Gun Owners

**Bill No. [36-0105](#)** An act amending title 7 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 13, subchapter III by prohibiting the possession, sale, or manufacture of tetrahydrocannabinol acid, delta-6 THC, delta-8 THC and delta-10 THC products in the Virgin Islands and for other related purposes.

**Bill No. [36-0123](#)** An act amending title 20 Virgin Islands Code, part II, chapter 43, subchapter I, section 493 making it unlawful for a person who has 0.04 percent or more, by weight, of alcohol in his blood to operate a commercial motor vehicle, and making it unlawful for a person under the age of 21 years who has any detectable amount of alcohol in his blood, to operate a motor vehicle.

**Bill No. [36-0136](#)** An act amending title 23 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 17, subchapter II by adding new sections 1331 through 1336 mandating lethal weapon training for security guards and investigators.

**TUESDAY,  
SEPTEMBER 09, 2025**

**CONSTITUENT MEETINGS AND OFFICE WORK**

**Reserved**

**WEDNESDAY,  
SEPTEMBER 10, 2025**

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**CHAIR: SENATOR MARVIN A. BLYDEN  
VICE CHAIR: SENATOR CLIFFORD A. JOSEPH, SR.**

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**Committee on Housing, Transportation  
and Telecommunications  
10:00 A.M.  
Earle B. Ottley Legislative Hall**

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The Committee on Housing, Transportation & Telecommunications has scheduled a meeting for **Wednesday, September 10, 2025, in the Earle B. Ottley Legislative Hall on St. Thomas.**

**VIHA Operations, Challenges, and Opportunities**

The Committee will receive testimony on the Virgin Islands Housing Authority's operations, challenges, and opportunities. Areas of focus include agency updates on operations and maintenance issues, the Housing Choice Voucher Program, and progress in community rehabilitation. Testimony will also address the Williams Delight sale and related funding assistance, as well as the impact of federal-level policy changes on VIHA's funding and overall operations.

**Invited Testifier:**

**Dwayne Alexander**, Executive Director, Virgin Islands Housing Authority

**BLOCK II**

**12:30 P.M.**

**Homeownership and Housing Development Programs**

The Committee will also hear testimony on the status of homeownership and housing development programs. This includes updates on funding and progress of current initiatives, the availability and utilization of funds for affordable housing, and the effects of federal policy changes on funding streams, operations, and programs.

**Invited Testifiers:**

**Eugene Jones**, Executive Director, Virgin Islands Housing Finance Authority

**Adrienne Williams-Octalien**, Executive Director, Office of Disaster Recovery

**Wayne L. Biggs**, Chief Executive Officer, VI Economic Development Authority

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**THURSDAY,  
SEPTEMBER 11, 2025**

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

**Committee on Budget, Appropriations  
and Finance  
10:00 A.M.  
Earle B. Ottley Legislative Hall**

The Committee on Budget, Appropriations and Finance will meet on Thursday, September 11, 2025, 10:00 A.M. in the Earle B. Ottley on St. Thomas to consider the Fiscal Year 2026 Budget bills.

**BLOCK I**

- Bill No. 36-0154** An act providing a lump-sum appropriation from the Health Revolving Fund to the Virgin Islands Department of Health and a contribution to the General Fund of the Treasury of the Government of the Virgin Islands for fiscal year October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026
- Bill No. 36-0155** An act providing a lump sum appropriation from the General Fund to the Virgin Islands Fire and Emergency Medical Services Fund for the fiscal year October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026
- Bill No. 36-0156** An act providing an appropriation from the Business and Commercial Properties Revolving Fund to the Virgin Islands Department of Property and Procurement for operating expenses for the fiscal year October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026
- Bill No. 36-0157** An act providing an appropriation from the Virgin Islands Lottery as a contribution to the General Fund of the Treasury of the Government of the Virgin Islands for the fiscal year October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026
- Bill No. 36-0158** An act providing an appropriation from the District Public Road Fund of the Government of the Virgin Islands to the Department of Public Works for operating expenses for the fiscal year October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026
- Bill No. 36-0159** An act providing an appropriation from the Indirect Cost Fund for the operating expenses of the Office of Management and Budget, the Virgin Islands Division of Personnel, the Virgin Islands Department of Property and Procurement and the Virgin Islands Department of Finance for the fiscal year October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026

- Bill No. 36-0160** An act providing an appropriation from the General Fund of the Treasury of the Government of the Virgin Islands to the St. Croix Capital Improvement Fund and the St. Thomas Capital Improvement Fund for fiscal year October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026
- Bill No. 36-0161** An act appropriating \$25,500,000 to the Legislature of the Virgin Islands in the fiscal year October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026
- Bill No. 36-0162** An act appropriating \$20,000,000 from the Virgin Islands Insurance Guaranty Fund as a contribution to the General Fund of the Treasury of the Government of the Virgin Islands in the fiscal year September 30, 2025 through October 1, 2026
- Bill No. 36-0163** An act providing an appropriation for salaries and expenses of the Virgin Islands Board of Elections and the Office of the Supervisor of Elections in the fiscal year October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026

## **BLOCK II**

- Bill No. 36-0164** An act providing a lump-sum appropriation from the School Construction, Maintenance and Capital Fund to the Bureau of School Construction and Maintenance for repair, renovation and maintenance of public schools and facilities in fiscal year October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026
- Bill No. 36-0165** An act appropriating \$6,000,000 from the Caribbean Basin Initiative Fund as a contribution to the General Fund of the Treasury of the Government of the Virgin Islands in fiscal year October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026
- Bill No. 36-0166** An act providing an appropriation from the Tourism Advertising Revolving Fund to the Virgin Islands Waste Management Authority, the Office of the Governor, the Virgin Islands Department of Education, the Virgin Islands Police Department, the Virgin Islands Department of Public Works, the Virgin Islands Department of Agriculture, the Virgin Islands Department of Sports, Parks and Recreation, the Virgin Islands Department of Licensing and Consumer Affairs, the Virgin Islands Public Broadcasting System and the Virgin Islands Department of Tourism during the fiscal year October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026
- Bill No. 36-0167** An act providing an appropriation for the salaries and expenses of the University of the Virgin Islands for the fiscal year October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026
- Bill No. 36-0168** An act providing an appropriation for the operating expenses of the Public Employees Relations Board and the Virgin Islands Labor Management Committee for the fiscal year October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026
- Bill No. 36-0169** An act appropriating the sum of \$1,000,000 from the Virgin Islands Education Initiative Fund to the School of Construction, Maintenance and Capital Fund

- Bill No. 36-0170** An act providing an appropriation for the operating expenses of the Waste Management Authority from the Sewer Waste Water Fund of the Government of the Virgin Islands for the fiscal year October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026
- Bill No. 36-0171** An act providing an appropriation for the operating expenses of the Virgin Islands Hospital and Health Facilities Corporation from the General Fund of the Treasury of the Government of the Virgin Islands during the fiscal year October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026
- Bill No. 36-0172** An act providing an appropriation for the operating expenses of the Virgin Islands Office of the Inspector General from the General Fund of the Treasury of the Government of the Virgin Islands for the fiscal year October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026
- Bill No. 36-0173** An act providing an appropriation for the operation of the Judicial Branch of the Government of the Virgin Islands, the Judicial Council and the Office of the Territorial Public Defender during the fiscal year October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2025
- BLOCK III**
- Bill No. 36-0174** An act providing an appropriation from the General Fund of the Treasury of the Government of the Virgin Islands for the operation of the Government of the Virgin Islands during the fiscal year October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026
- Bill No. 36-0175** An act providing an appropriation for the operating expenses of the Public Services Commission for the fiscal year October 1, 2025 to September 30, 2026
- Bill No. 36-0176** An act providing an appropriation from the General Fund of the Treasury of the Government of the Virgin Islands to the St. John Capital Improvement Fund for fiscal year October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026
- Bill No. 36-0177** An act providing an appropriation for the operating expenses of the Virgin Islands Board of Education from the General Fund of the Treasury of the Government of the Virgin Islands during the fiscal year October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026
- Bill No. 36-0178** An act providing an appropriation from the Transportation Trust Fund as a contribution to the General Fund and for the operating expenses of the Virgin Islands Bureau of Motor Vehicles and the Department of Public Works during the fiscal year October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026
- Bill No. 36-0179** An act providing an appropriation for the operating expenses of the Virgin Islands Career and Technical Education Board from the General Fund of the Treasury of the Government of the Virgin Islands during the fiscal year October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026
- Bill No. 36-0180** An act providing an appropriation to the Virgin Islands Taxicab Commission for the fiscal year October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026

- Bill No. 36-0181** An act providing an appropriation from the Anti-Litter and Beautification Fund to the Virgin Islands Waste Management Authority and the Virgin Islands Department of Public Works for operating expenses during the fiscal year October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026
- Bill No. 36-0182** An act providing an appropriation for the operating expenses of the Virgin Islands Waste Management Authority from the General Fund of the Treasury of the Government of the Virgin Islands during the fiscal year October 1, 2025 to September 30, 2026
- Bill No. 36-0186** An act appropriating \$4,892,000 from the GVI/JPMC Charitable Fund to the General Fund of the Treasury of the Government of the Virgin Islands
- Bill No. 36-0120** An Act appropriating the sum of \$341,460 from the Virgin Islands Education Initiative Fund to the Virgin Islands Department of Education for the purpose of conducting evaluations to determine students' eligibility for special education services

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**FRIDAY,  
SEPTEMBER 12, 2025**

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**CHAIR: SENATOR MARISE C. JAMES  
VICE CHAIR: SENATOR MILTON E. POTTER**

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**Committee on Disaster Recovery,  
Infrastructure and Planning  
10:00 A.M.  
Frits E. Lawaetz Legislative Conference Room**

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The Committee on Housing, Transportation & Telecommunications has scheduled a meeting for **Friday, September 12, 2025, in the Frits E. Lawaetz Legislative Conference Room.**

- Bill No. 36-0070** An Act amending title 28 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 19 by adding section 423 relating to failure to use property acquired through the exercise of the power of eminent domain.
- Bill No. 36-0110** An Act amending title 20 Virgin Islands Code, part I, chapter 1 to require a permit from the Virgin Islands Department of Public Works before the excavation of any public roadway.

**Invited Testifiers:**

**Honorable Derek Gabriel**, Commissioner, Department of Public Works  
**Julio Rhymer, Sr.**, Director, Office of Management and Budget  
**Chris George**, Administrator, GIS Division, Office of the Lieutenant Governor

## **BLOCK II**

The Committee will receive testimony from the Office of Disaster Recovery regarding key disaster recovery efforts currently underway across the Territory. The discussion will focus on contractor performance, newly awarded projects, and the implementation and oversight of major recovery programs, with special attention to public concerns, transparency, and accountability.

### **1. Contractor Performance Review (Territory)**

- Receive updates on the performance of contractors engaged in disaster recovery projects and whether construction projects are progressing on schedule and within budget.
- Discuss project oversight mechanisms, and local workforce participation.

### **2. Testimony on \$961M in New Disaster Recovery Awards (St. Croix)**

- Receive testimony regarding the recent announcement of over \$961 million in disaster recovery project awards.
- Discuss major initiatives including:
  - Rebuild USVI Education Bundle
  - North Central St. Croix Horizontal Infrastructure Bundle
  - Selection process, contractor qualifications, and design-build approaches.

### **3. Oversight of the EnVision Tomorrow Program**

- Receive updates on progress of homes and address public concerns and media reports highlighting substandard or unsafe repairs under the EnVision Tomorrow Program.
- Review issues raised by program participants and current oversight mechanisms for contractors.
- Discuss actions to improve accountability, protect homeowners, and restore public trust.

#### **Invited Testifier:**

**Adrienne L. Williams-Octalien**, Director, Office of Disaster Recovery

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**MONDAY,  
SEPTEMBER 15, 2025**

**CHAIR: SENATOR CARLA J. JOSEPH  
VICE CHAIR: SENATOR KENNETH L. GITTENS**

**Committee on Rules and Judiciary  
10:00 A.M.  
Earle B. Ottley Legislative Hall**

**TUESDAY,  
SEPTEMBER 16, 2025**

**CONSTITUENT MEETINGS AND OFFICE WORK**

**Reserved**

**WEDNESDAY,  
SEPTEMBER 17, 2025**

**PRESIDENT: SENATOR MILTON E. POTTER  
VICE PRESIDENT: SENATOR KENNETH L. GITTENS**

**Committee of the Whole/Regular Session  
10:00 A.M.  
Earle B. Ottley Legislative Hall**

**THURSDAY,  
SEPTEMBER 18, 2025**

**CONSTITUENT MEETINGS AND OFFICE WORK**

**Reserved**

FRIDAY,  
SEPTEMBER 19, 2025

CHAIR: SENATOR ANGEL L. BOLQUES, JR.  
VICE CHAIR: SENATOR CARLA J. JOSEPH

Committee on Culture, Youth, Aging,  
Sports and Parks  
10:00 A.M.  
Earle B. Ottley Legislative Hall

The Committee on Culture, Youth, Aging, Sports, and Parks will convene a legislative hearing to examine the operational oversight, progress, and challenges of recreational facilities and capital improvement projects of the Department of Sports, Parks, and Recreation across the Virgin Islands. The hearing will also include a legislative review of Bill No. 36-0099 addressing elder abuse response systems and a special policy discussion regarding CMS (Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services) certification for the Virgin Islands' aging and senior care facilities

BLOCK I 10:00 A.M. – 12:30 P.M.

Department of Sports, Parks, and Recreation – Territorial Operations Review

Invited Testifier:  
Vincent Roberts, Commissioner Designee, Department of Sports, Parks, and Recreation

LUNCH 12:30 P.M. – 1:00 P.M.

BLOCK II 1:30 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.

Bill No. 36-0099 An act amending title 34 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 15 expanding the Elder and Dependent Adult Abuse Prevention Act

Invited Testifiers:  
Honorable Averil George, Commissioner, Department of Human Services  
Gordon Rhea, Esq., Attorney General of the Virgin Islands, Department of Justice  
Troy deChabert-Schuster, State Director, AARP Virgin Islands  
Angus Drigo, Executive Director, Disability Rights Center Virgin Islands

**BLOCK III****2:30 P.M. – 5:00 P.M.****Policy Discussion – CMS Certification for Senior Living Facilities**

The Committee will engage in a policy discussion on Aging focused on the current status and pathway toward achieving CMS (Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services) certification for senior living and long-term care facilities in the U.S. Virgin Islands. CMS certification is essential for facilities seeking to provide care reimbursable under Medicare and Medicaid, and ensures compliance with federal standards for quality, safety, and patient rights. The Committee will examine:

- 1. Where are we now?** – Assessing the current certification status of senior living facilities.
- 2. What's required?** – Understanding CMS's Conditions of Participation, operational manuals, and compliance criteria.
- 3. What's next?** – Outlining a strategic path forward for certification, facility upgrades, and access to CMS federal funding.

**Invited Testifiers:**

**Honorable Averil George**, Commissioner, Department of Human Services

**Troy deChabert-Schuster**, State Director, AARP Virgin Islands

**Honorable Justa Encarnacion**, Commissioner, Department of Health

**Junia John-Straker**, CEO, Lutheran Social Services of Virgin Islands

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