

# **BUDGET PRESENTATION**

***BEFORE THE LEGISLATURE OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS  
COMMITTEE ON FINANCE***

***August 11, 2025***



**FISCAL YEAR 2026 BUDGET**

**CAROLINE F. FAWKES**

## **SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS**

### **ELECTIONS SYSTEM OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS**

#### **1 INTRODUCTION**

2 Good morning, Honorable Chairman Novelle E. Francis, Jr.,  
3 honorable members of the Committee on Budget, Appropriations,  
4 and Finance, other honorable Senators in attendance, legislative  
5 staff, and all those joining us in person or virtually via YouTube and  
6 Facebook, members of the press, and the viewing and listening  
7 audience.

8 I am Caroline Fawkes, the Supervisor of Elections, Certified Elections  
9 Registration Administrator (CERA). Joining me today is Raymond J.  
10 Williams, Chairman of the Board of Elections, who is also a Certified  
11 Elections Registration Administrator.

12 It is an honor to present the proposed budget for the Elections  
13 System of the Virgin Islands for Fiscal Year (FY) 2026. This budget  
14 includes allocations for both the Board of Elections and the Office of  
15 the Supervisor, along with our accomplishments, challenges, and  
16 goals.

17 The Board of Elections is the elected policy-making body for the  
18 Elections System of the Virgin Islands. It consists of fourteen (14)  
19 elected members, representing both the St. Thomas/St. John and St.  
20 Croix districts, each serving a four-year term. Notably, two (2)  
21 members from the St. Thomas/St. John District are required to be  
22 residents of St. John.

23 The current members of the Board of Elections are Chairman  
24 Raymond J. Williams-CERA, Vice Chairman Lawrence Boschulte-  
25 CERA, Secretary Florine Audain Hassell-CERA, and members  
26 Kareem T. Francis, Shikima L. Jones-Sprauve, Atanya Springette,  
27 Dr. Cleopatra Peter, Michael A. Joseph, Esq., Barbara LaRonde,  
28 Harriet Mercer, Lilliana Belardo de O'Neal-CERA, Chaneel Callwood,  
29 Nathan Fletcher, and Cornelius Jn Baptiste.

30 I recognize and thank our eleven dedicated and skilled elections staff:  
31 Kevermay Douglas, CERA – St. Thomas/St. John Deputy Supervisor;  
32 Terrell Alexandre, CERA – St. Croix Deputy Supervisor; Milagritos  
33 Venzen; Ulette Todmann-Hodge – Senior Elections Assistants; Mari  
34 Felix; Ms. Stephanie Joseph; Sheri Richardson; Uri Peters; Mrs.  
35 Mariana Romero – Election Assistants; and Tricia Johnson,  
36 Administrative Assistant; as well as Denise Moore, Administrator of

37 Fiscal & Personnel Services, and Richard Wilson, Board Executive  
38 Assistant. They are truly exceptional professionals in the field of  
39 elections. I am pleased to say that we have no employees earning less  
40 than \$35,000.00.

41 I want to take a moment to spotlight two extraordinary individuals  
42 who embody our unwavering commitment to excellence: Ms.  
43 Stephanie Joseph, our Elections Assistant from the St. Thomas/St.  
44 John District, and Mrs. Ulette Todmann Hodge, our Senior Elections  
45 Assistant. Together, they represent the pinnacle of dedication,  
46 performance, and selfless service, earning the distinguished title of  
47 our 2025 Employees of the Year. Together they represent fifty (50)  
48 years of service in elections. Their relentless passion and exceptional  
49 contributions inspire us all to strive for greatness!

50 The Office of the Supervisor of Elections, which has locations on all  
51 three islands, is responsible for the daily administration of the Virgin  
52 Islands' elections system.

53 The role of an election administrator has transformed from a  
54 primarily clerical position into a complex managerial role that  
55 involves managing registration, various voting methods, and  
56 providing voter education and communication. Due to the intricacies

57 of this position, the Elections Assistance Commission (Federal),  
58 states and other professional certifying organizations are working to  
59 provide the necessary training and support for election officials to  
60 perform effectively.

61 Our foremost duty is to safeguard the integrity of elections, ensuring  
62 that the voices of United States Virgin Islanders resonate powerfully  
63 throughout the entire electoral process. We are committed to making  
64 every vote count, because a true democracy thrives when its people  
65 actively participate in shaping their future. Our responsibilities  
66 extend beyond mere administration; we are the architects of  
67 democracy. By organizing and directing the dedicated work of  
68 election personnel, we ensure that every voice is heard, and every  
69 vote is counted. We meticulously maintain accurate territory-wide  
70 voter registration databases and continually update voter rolls,  
71 safeguarding the integrity of the electoral process. Our mission is to  
72 empower citizens and uphold the cornerstone of our democracy—free  
73 and fair elections.

74 At the heart of our democracy, we play a pivotal role in empowering  
75 citizens through voter registration and advocating for fair electoral  
76 practices.

77 We provide voters with accessible and fully equipped voting centers.  
78 Our responsibilities include managing the seamless transfer of  
79 registered voters who have moved, crafting robust budget proposals,  
80 and accurately compiling payroll for our dedicated election officials  
81 and workers. We also take pride in strategically assigning personnel  
82 at voting centers to assist all voters and streamlining voter  
83 registration, especially during the critical election period. Together,  
84 we are not just facilitating an election but safeguarding the  
85 democratic process and empowering everyone to participate in  
86 shaping the future of our U.S. Virgin Islands.

87 ESVI play a crucial role in fostering a transparent electoral process  
88 by actively disseminating vital election-related information to the  
89 media, political parties, candidates, and the public in a timely  
90 manner. Our responsibilities extend beyond mere information  
91 sharing; we prepare the department's budget, diligently monitor  
92 expenditures, and supervise financial records and transactions.  
93 Additionally, we manage the candidate filing process and ensure  
94 accurate campaign finance reporting, reinforcing the integrity of our  
95 democratic system.

We are in constant monthly contact and attend meetings with the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) from Washington, District of Columbia. These meetings facilitate a technical exchange and discussion on important cybersecurity issues affecting state, local, tribal, and territorial (SLTT) organizations and the wider cyber community. Additionally, it provides opportunities to learn more about CISA's services and resources to bolster the security posture of SLTT's cyber networks. We remain in contact with the Bureau of Information Technology regarding cybersecurity. Lastly, I serve on the Virgin Island Cybersecurity Advisory Council.

**See Appendix A – ESVI Organizational Chart**

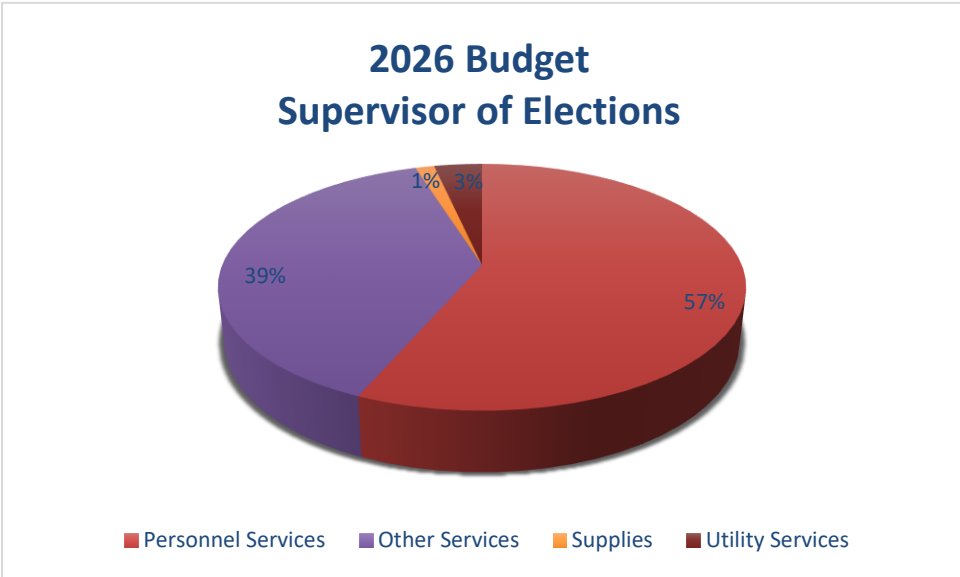
#### **OFFICE OF THE SUPERVISOR PROPOSED 2026 BUDGET**

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As part of our ongoing commitment to maintaining efficient operations and safeguarding the integrity of our electoral processes, the Elections system of the Virgin Islands requests funding in the Fiscal Year 2026 budget to address several critical needs.

The proposed budget for the Office of the Supervisor in Fiscal Year 2026 is two million, five hundred fifty-three thousand, five hundred dollars **\$2,553,500.00.**

An estimated 57% of this budget will be allocated to salaries and fringe benefits for eight classified and four exempt employees. Additionally, 39% of the budget will be spent on other services and charges, which include professional services, training, rental of land/buildings, capital outlays, communication and security; supplies (1%); and utilities (3%).



For FY2026, the budget proposal is as follows:

- Personnel Services: \$1,096,000.00
- Fringe Benefits: \$347,000.00
- Supplies: \$35,000.00
- Professional Services and Training: \$986,500.00
- Utility Services: \$89,000.00



The additional funding required for equipment, increases in professional services, and unplanned emergencies are outlined below:

a. Expected annual increases in the costs of Professional Services contracts.

b. Upgrading of staff central processing units for their desktop computers. ESVI presently have the 2018 versions.

c. Based on General Office Space best practices, ergonomics, health and safety, we must upgrade the St. Thomas staff workspace and furniture. General Office Space: Approximately 70-100 square feet per person is recommended for office settings. These guidelines help ensure safety and comfort in the workplace. Occupational Safety and Health Administration oversight essentially covers means of evacuation or egress procedures should there be a fire-related emergency in a cubicle-defined environment.

Cubicle Space: Ergonomic guidelines suggest that cubicles should provide enough space for comfortable movement and clearance for legs and feet. In 2024 we received an estimated cost of \$29,000.00, however, due to no funding, we could not move forward with this project. We estimate at least \$33,000.00 for this project. We would like to complete this project in fiscal year 2026. Understanding OSHA

office space requirements per person is crucial for ensuring a safe and productive work environment. According to OSHA regulations, the amount of space allocated per employee can significantly affect comfort and efficiency.

d. Replacement of office furniture/equipment outside of the cubicles – St. Thomas/St. John offices. Estimate of \$5,000.00

e. As of July 31, 2025, the Office of the Supervisor has expended \$1,825,144.00, 73% of its budget. Outstanding vendor payments are in the amount of \$206,138. 20.

**\*\*Elections Miscellaneous Budget: \*\***

The Elections System of the Virgin Islands is requesting \$650,000.00 to conduct the 2026 Elections. Funding should be provided in the fiscal year 2026 Miscellaneous Budget. This does not include funding in case there is a Runoff Election. A Run-Off Election is held when a second election must be held because the first election did not reach the necessary threshold of votes needed for a candidate to win.

The cost of an election embodies much more than just a financial transaction; it represents the intricate machinery that ensures democracy functions smoothly during critical moments when citizens cast their votes. This investment encompasses the personnel,

169 equipment, and supplies necessary to conduct elections and  
170 maintain the integrity of our electoral system.

171 At the core of election expenditures lies the vital infrastructure. This  
172 includes managing and securing the voter registration database,  
173 maintaining and testing vital voting equipment, and upholding  
174 robust computer systems essential for daily operations and accurate  
175 reporting of election results. Training dedicated election officials is  
176 also crucial to maintaining a trustworthy electoral process.

177 The operational costs surrounding the election are equally  
178 substantial. They can be categorized into four key areas: the printing  
179 of ballots and related materials, compensating poll workers and  
180 temporary staff, securing polling locations, and distributing  
181 informational materials and mail ballots.

182 Every aspect of election administration is critical, from cybersecurity  
183 and thorough audits to ensuring the safety of officials and polling  
184 places. Accessibility must be prioritized, catering to all voters,  
185 including those with disabilities. We must also focus on vote-by-mail  
186 initiatives, comprehensive voter education, dual-language materials,  
187 usability, and advanced voter technology.

188 It is imperative that election funding be appropriated this fiscal year  
189 to ensure we are fully prepared for the pivotal elections in August and

November 2026. The processes and expenditures associated with elections begin long before Election Day—this is our commitment to safeguarding democracy. Let's invest wisely to ensure every voice is heard.

**\*\*Active Registered Voters: \*\***

The total number of Active Registered Voters by island is as follows:

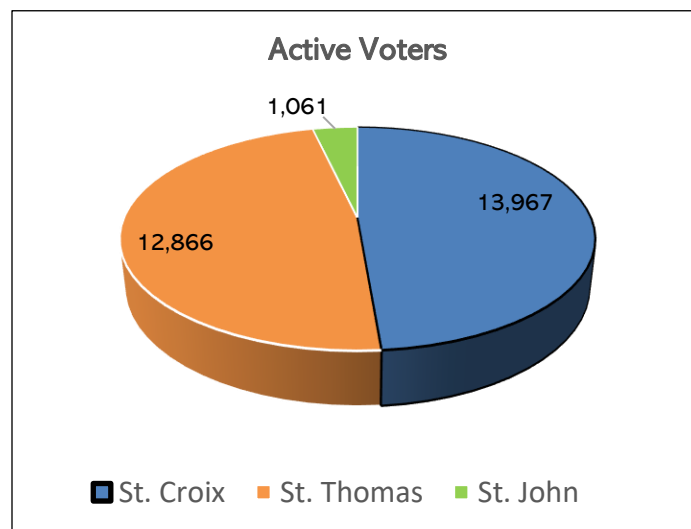
- St. Croix: 13,967

- St. Thomas: 12,866

- St. John: 1,061

Total Registered Active Voters: 27,894 as of July 31, 2025.

**Please see Appendix B for the Active Voter Registration Statistical Report.**



**\*\*Inactive Registered Voters:\*\***

The total number of Inactive Registered Voters by island is as follows:

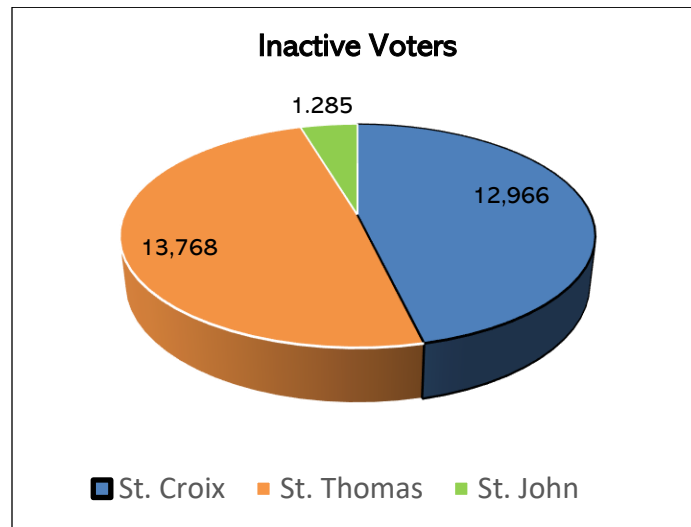
205 - St. Croix: 12,996

206 - St. Thomas: 13,768

207 - St. John: 1,285

208 Total Registered Inactive Voters: 28,049 as of July 31, 2025.

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210

211

212 **See Appendix C – Inactive Voter’s Registration Statistical**  
213 **Report.**

214 We urge every citizen to actively shape our democracy by updating  
215 their voter registration, utilizing our new online voter registration  
216 service at [vivote.gov](https://vivote.gov) or visiting our offices. Then making their voices  
217 heard at the voting centers by voting. Your participation is not just a  
218 right; it is our collective responsibility. Let us stand together and  
219 ensure that every voice counts in the electoral process!

**\*\*THE BOARD OF ELECTIONS PROPOSED BUDGET FOR FISCAL  
YEAR 2026: \*\***

The Virgin Islands Board of Elections, established in Title 18, Chapter 3, Section 41, of the Virgin Islands Code is a single board that governs both election districts. The Board is requesting a budget of three thousand eight thousand and eighty-one, four hundred twenty-nine and forty-cents -\$381,429.40 for Fiscal Year 2026, allocated as follows:

Personnel Services: \$74,000.00

Fringe Benefits: \$34,029.40

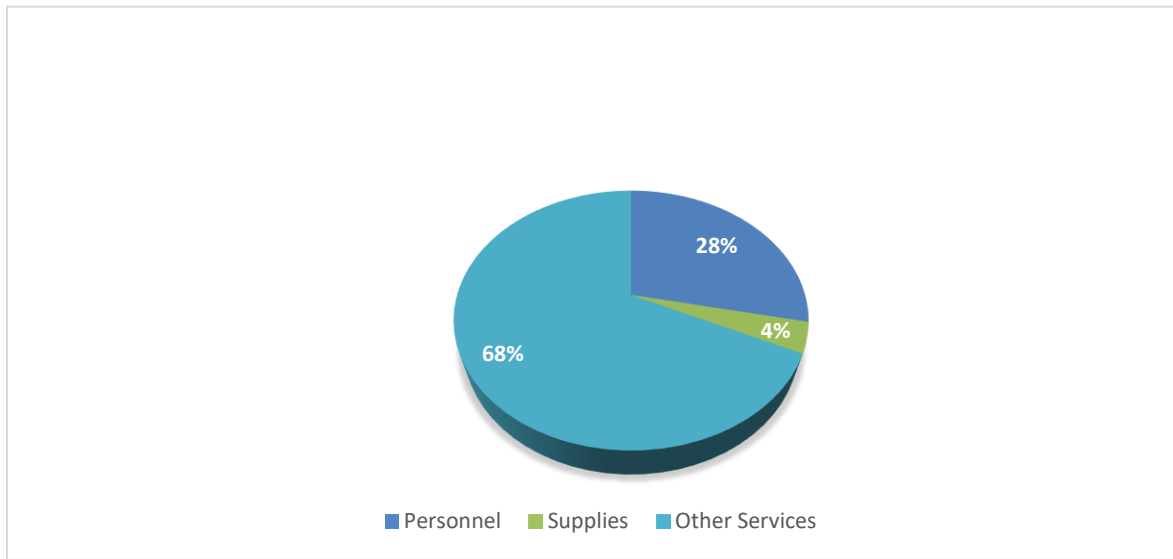
Supplies: \$14,400.00

Capital Outlays: \$95,000.00

Other Services: \$164,000.00 (including Training & Stipends)

Twenty-eight percent (28%) of the Board of Elections' Budget is dedicated to salaries and fringe benefits for the Executive Assistant.

An additional 68% falls under "Other Services," which includes stipends, the replacement of two 2014 transportation vans, upgrades to video conferencing systems in both districts, voter education outreach, legal fees, election-specific training and certification for the Election Center. Supplies account for the remaining 4% of the budget



242

243 We are excited to announce our upgrade to the video teleconferencing  
244 system. These state-of-the-art tools are set to revolutionize our  
245 conference rooms, elevating meeting productivity and accelerating  
246 decision-making processes. The estimated cost is \$36,000.00.

247 In addition to this technological advancement, we also address the  
248 pressing need to replace two outdated vans plagued by significant  
249 maintenance issues. These vehicles are vital for transporting  
250 personnel and our essential voting equipment for off-site  
251 demonstrations, and they deserve better. Our recent experience on  
252 May 9th, when Board Members were stranded due to a van cutting  
253 out and stalling, highlights the urgency of this issue. No one should  
254 have to worry about vehicle reliability while engaged in critical work.

255 The estimated cost for one van is \$70,000.00. While not the optimum  
256 solution, with limited funding, we realize that we may have to  
257 purchase one per year.

258 The cost of purchasing two new vans may initially seem high,  
259 however, it is an investment in our organization's future. This  
260 decision will ensure our Board Members and Staff safety, reliability,  
261 and efficiency, translating into long-term savings and enhanced  
262 operational capability. We are committed to being the best stewards  
263 of the people's money while investing in the tools and resources to  
264 drive our success and help us achieve our mission.

265 As of July 31, 2025, the Board of Elections has expended  
266 \$154,074.00 - 62% of its budget. Outstanding vendor payments are  
267 \$13,128.37.

268 **\*\*ACCOMPLISHMENTS\*\***

269 **\*\*Fiscal Year 2025 Accomplishments: \*\***

270 a. The Board of Elections and the Office of the Supervisor completed  
271 audits for the 2025 General Election in both districts, verifying 100%  
272 accuracy in ballot recording in the voting machines.

273 b. We continued updating our voter registration database, including  
274 addresses, voter status, and missing document numbers, to fulfill the



275 2022-2024 Active/Inactive project mandated by law. This listing can  
276 be found on our website, [www.vivote.gov](http://www.vivote.gov).

277 c. We are excited to announce the success of our civic education  
278 campaigns, which promote voter awareness and participation among  
279 our high school students. Thanks to former Board Member, Atty. Lisa  
280 Harris Moorhead for serving as the moderator of the exciting Civics  
281 Matters II Championship. A heartfelt congratulations to Free Will  
282 Baptist Christian School for claiming the prestigious title of Civics  
283 Matters Bowl champions in 2025!

284 As we look ahead, the planning for the 2026 Civics Bowl is already  
285 underway, and we are eager to inspire even greater enthusiasm for  
286 civic engagement. We remain committed to highlighting the critical  
287 importance of voting. We are proud to amplify our message through  
288 public service announcements in Spanish, ensuring that many voices  
289 are heard and valued in our democracy. Let us empower our  
290 community to act and make a difference at the ballot box!

291 d. We maintained post-election engagement to encourage voters to feel  
292 comfortable and eager to participate in their local democracy.

293 e. Online voter registration (OVR) was first adopted by Arizona in  
294 2002. It has gained traction in numerous states and territories  
295 (including Guam) due to its ability to reduce costs, improve

296 government efficiency, and create more comprehensive and accurate  
297 voter lists. Currently, forty-three (43) states, Washington D.C., and  
298 Guam offer online registration. The Elections System of the Virgin  
299 Islands launched its Online Voter Registration Portal on January 16,  
300 2025. To date, eighteen (18)- STT; one (1) – STJ, and ten (10) STX  
301 individuals have utilized this application. This platform provides  
302 users with the ability to:

- 303 1. Register as a new voter
- 304 2. Perform voter registration updates
- 305 3. Cancel their voter registration; and
- 306 4. Request an absentee ballot

307 With confidence that our Online Voter Registration (OVR) system is  
308 now fully operational, including a built-in user survey to gather  
309 valuable feedback upon completion of the registration process we are  
310 preparing to launch major public education campaigns throughout  
311 2025-2026. This has been a key component of our long-term  
312 strategy. We plan to conduct major education campaigns on this  
313 process throughout 2025-2026, which has been our long-term goal.

314 f. Congratulations to Mr. Terrell Alexandre, St. Croix Deputy  
315 Supervisor, and Board Member Audain-Hassell on completing the  
316 CERA Certification. We now have fourteen (14) CERA-certified staff

317 and board members, both current and former. Member Atanya  
318 Springette will obtain her certification in 2026. In addition,  
319 numerous staff members will be eligible to obtain their certifications  
320 during fiscal year 2026.

321 The Virgin Islands Members are part of an election organization of  
322 more than 1,350 members nationwide. The Election Center has the  
323 largest membership of state and local elections and voter registration  
324 administrators and vendors of any election-related organization in  
325 the United States of America.

326 g. The Election Assistance Commission (EAC) hosted its first Region  
327 Six (6) Conference this year in Guam from March 17-21, 2025,  
328 bringing together representatives from all five U.S. territories,  
329 American Samoa, Guam, Puerto Rico, Mariana Islands (Saipan,  
330 Tinian, Agrihan, and Rota) and the US Virgin Islands. This was a  
331 historical event for the EAC who had been in existence for twenty-  
332 three (23) years. Each jurisdiction was represented by two election  
333 officials, fully funded by the EAC, ensuring inclusive participation  
334 and diverse perspectives, Terrell Alexandre and I attended this  
335 conference.

336 This landmark event served as a pivotal opportunity for territories to  
337 engage in meaningful collaboration, share best practices, and present

338 the unique election processes employed within their respective  
339 regions. By showcasing these localized approaches, the conference  
340 provided EAC leadership with direct insight into the challenges,  
341 innovations, and operational frameworks that shape territorial  
342 elections.

343 More than just a professional convening, the Region 6 Conference  
344 marked a significant step toward strengthening inter-territorial  
345 partnerships, amplifying regional voices, and fostering a more  
346 responsive and informed national dialogue on election integrity. It  
347 laid the groundwork for future policy alignment, technical support,  
348 and peer-to-peer learning—ensuring that no territory remains an  
349 afterthought in the pursuit of electoral excellence.

350 h. The St. Thomas staff presented to the Youth Arise Summer  
351 Enrichment Program in July 2024 and July 2025, which saw the  
352 participation of approximately seventeen students this year. The  
353 students were educated on the importance of voting, including the  
354 history of voting in America. A video explaining the branches of  
355 government was shared with the group. Additionally, a  
356 demonstration of voting machines was conducted. It was a valuable  
357 experience for the students and the program coordinators, Dr. Arlene  
358 Christopher, Vice President and Mr. Alston Creque.

i. ESVI has contracted with two vendors (Experian and Accurant) to provide an additional data management tool. A direct connection to over 34 billion current public records: Detect fraud, Verify identities and Conduct investigations.

Experian is a multinational data broker and consumer credit reporting company headquartered in Dublin, Ireland. Experian collects and aggregates information on more than one billion people and businesses including 235 million individual U.S. consumers and more than 25 million U.S. businesses.

Accurant for Government can be used to verify, locate and authenticate the identities of persons through Lexis Nexis. Accurant offers fast, efficient search technology that allows you to instantly locate both people and authenticate their identities. It verifies such essential personal information as name, address and social security number or federal identification number. These vendors are respected voter registration and maintenance service providers assisting to create process efficiencies and reduce the number of undeliverable mailers.

j. By August 31<sup>st</sup>, we will launch an ElectionStats database on our elections website. ElectionStats, built by Civera since 2012, is a publishing platform and a searchable data warehouse of historic

elections, ballot questions, and voter turnout statistics. This software brings public data to life. This portal will enable users to find what they are looking for in a few clicks, and the platform provides data visualizations to enhance their experience.

1. Every day, citizens get 24/7 searchable access to official election USVI election results.

2. Candidates and civic groups have the information they need to make decisions without paying third parties.

3. Journalists and researchers can download data and inform the public with more depth and better insights.

This platform is America's #1 platform for reporting historical election results. Our agency can save time, eliminate costly records requests, and increase voter confidence with this software.

k. I have attached a sample of the Early Voting Exit Surveys. One thousand, three hundred and seventeen (1,317) results inputted here are the results – 73% rated us as Excellent and 24% rated us Very Good – that's a total of 97%. This feedback from our voters reflects positively on our commitment to excellence. I thank the Board Members, staff, elections officials, and most importantly, the voters. ESVI will build upon our success during the 2026 Election Cycle.

401     **\*\*GOALS:\*\***

- 402     a. Participate in National Voter Registration Day on September 15th.
- 403     The 2025 season of National Voter Registration Day has officially
- 404     launched! We anticipate over 100,000 state and local elections across
- 405     the country this year, and we are building a nationwide partner
- 406     coalition to help ensure that America is #VoteReady for their next trip
- 407     to the ballot box.
- 408     b. Develop a platform that provides digital voter registration
- 409     identification cards, allowing voters to store them on mobile devices.
- 410     c. Launch a marketing campaign to increase community awareness
- 411     of our online voter registration portal, specifically targeting
- 412     individuals aged 18-40.
- 413     d. Organize an Expo on all three islands on September 23, 2026. This
- 414     event will coincide with the final day of registration before the period
- 415     closes on October 11, 2026. Whether you are new to the voter
- 416     registration process or a veteran of National Voter Registration Day,
- 417     everyone can benefit from assistance getting their friends, family, and
- 418     the broader community registered to vote. We will partner with
- 419     various government and non-profit organizations to ensure that this
- 420     event is informative, educational, and provides networking
- 421     opportunities.

422 e. Purchase tablets and a portal on our website for the judges to  
423 compile their reports. This will transition them from manual journal  
424 reporting to electronic reporting.

425 f. To plan and execute another successful Quiz Bowl 2025-2026 to  
426 include all the high schools territorially.

427 g. Continue implementing and conducting successful elections in the  
428 2026 Election cycle.

429 h. To increase voter registration numbers and participation rates.

430 **\*\*CHALLENGES:\*\***

431 a. **\*\*Engaging Citizens:\*\*** We must not only educate but also empower  
432 our citizens to take their rightful place in democracy by registering to  
433 vote. It's not just about having an ID; it's about inspiring them to  
434 participate actively on election day and make their voices heard.

435 b. **\*\*Voting Center Conditions:\*\*** Utilizing public schools as voting  
436 centers presents significant challenges. Broken air conditioning  
437 creates uncomfortable environments that deter participation, while  
438 insufficient electrical outlets hinder our operations. This forces us to  
439 consider renting private facilities, adding unnecessary expenses and  
440 complexities to the process.

441 c. **\*\*Funding Dilemma:\*\*** One of the most pressing hurdles we face is  
442 securing adequate and timely funding. Engaging our dedicated



443 election officials (poll workers) and vendors without the necessary  
444 resources becomes a daunting challenge. We need your support to  
445 ensure these essential partners are paid timely, showing they are  
446 valued. Funding must be provided during Fiscal Year 2026 and funds  
447 must be available until expended.

448 e. **\*\*Combatting Misinformation:\*\*** The integrity of our elections hangs  
449 in the balance as misinformation spreads like wildfire. We must band  
450 together to combat this threat. We urge voters to seek accurate  
451 information on our website and contact our office to clarify voting  
452 laws and procedures.

453 On behalf of the Board of Elections and the Office of the Supervisor  
454 of Elections, we earnestly implore this body to approve the proposed  
455 Fiscal 2026 budget. This funding is not merely a financial allocation;  
456 it is a commitment to uphold democracy, enhance electoral integrity,  
457 and serve our community with excellence. Together, we can ensure  
458 that every voice counts, and every vote is honored.

459 The agency's mission relies on financial resources to maintain and  
460 expand initiatives that address the growing needs of the Virgin  
461 Islands Elections System. This will ensure that we can provide  
462 reliable and efficient operations, uphold the integrity of the electoral

system, and meet statutory deadlines mandated by law. Insufficient funding could compromise the integrity of our electoral system.

**\*\*\* SUMMARY \*\*\***

**Office of the Supervisor FY26 Proposed Budget**

- Personnel Services: \$1,096,000.00
- Fringe Benefits: \$347,000.00
- Supplies: \$35,000.00
- Professional Services and Training: \$986,500.00
- Utility Services: \$89,000.00
- **Total: \$2,553,500.00**

**Board of Elections FY26 Proposed Budget**

- Personnel Services: \$74,000.00
- Fringe Benefits: \$34,029.40
- Supplies: \$14,400.00
- Capital Outlays: \$95,000.00
- Other Services: \$164,000.00 (including Training & Stipends)
- Total: \$381,429.40**

I will conclude with this quote: You Do Not Have a Right to Vote, You Have a Duty to Vote”. David Barton

484 \*\*\* **CONCLUSION** \*\*\*

485 Chairman Francis, I kindly urge you and the committee members to  
486 lend your full support and favorable consideration to the Elections  
487 System of the Virgin Islands FY 2026 Budget. We are grateful to the  
488 Committee Budget, Appropriations, and Finance and all members of  
489 the 36th Legislature for this opportunity to present our proposed  
490 Fiscal Year 2026 Budget. Together, let us empower our community  
491 by ensuring that every voice is heard and valued. “Your Voice is Your  
492 Vote, and Your Vote is Your Voice.” Let us make this a reality for all.”  
493 The Chairman of the Board and I are available to answer any  
494 questions you may have regarding our Fiscal Year 2026 budget  
495 Testimony.