

COMMITTEE ON BUDGET, APPROPRIATIONS & FINANCE  
36<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

# POST AUDIT DIVISION

FISCAL YEAR 2026 BUDGET ANALYSIS

## Virgin Islands Taxicab Commission

August 18, 2025



COMMITTEE ON BUDGET, APPROPRIATIONS & FINANCE  
36<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

# POST AUDIT DIVISION

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## **DEPARTMENT'S OVERVIEW**

The Virgin Islands Taxicab Commission was re-established in 2007 by Act No. 6968 as a semi-autonomous agency.

The Commission is comprised of a nine (9) member board, appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Legislature of the Virgin Islands. The names are as follows:

<b>Board Members</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Term</b>
Elizabeth Hansen-Watley (Department of Tourism)	Chairperson	2019- Present
Sweeney Toussaint, Jr (Taxi Operator- STX)	Vice Chairperson	2006- Present
Myrna S. George (Department of Licensing & Con.)	Secretary	2019- Present
Julian Penn (Taxi Operator- STT)	Member	2025
Franklin Brathwaite (Taxi Operator- STT)	Member	2021- Present
Vacant		
Vacant		
Vacant		
Vacant		

The Taxi License Fund is the sole funding source for this agency. This fund covers all personnel and operating expenses throughout the territory. Revenues for the Commission are derived from the issuance of business licenses, forms, publications, penalties, and citations.

The Virgin Islands Taxicab Commission regulates the automobile for hire industry which includes taxis and tour operators. Safely executing these responsibilities require improving operational efficiency and effectiveness by educating industry operators and consumers. The Virgin Islands Taxicab Commission oversees the operation of vehicles for hire through regulation, education and enforcement of the laws, rules and regulations governing the taxicab industry.

Achievements of organizational goals necessitate:

- a) Updating the Rules and Regulations Handbook for all automobile-for-hire operators and operators.
- b) Implementation of “United in Pride and Hope”; a professional development program designed for the benefit of all first-time industry operators and all other industry operators interested in service improvement.

The automobile-for-hire industry is a valuable and critical asset to the Territory’s #1 industry, tourism, and to the local community. Periodic reviews of policy and procedures ensure a safe, reliable, and regulated industry, as well as growth in revenue.

The Virgin Islands Taxicab Commission regulates the automobile.

## **VITCC AT A GLANCE**

Act No. 8907 Appropriated **\$556,043** to the VITCC. The Commission did not receive any additional funding for FY 2025.

*VITCC Objectives:*

**Recruitment of New Employees:**

- To hire additional staff in both the St. Croix and St. Thomas/St. John districts

**Digital Transformation:**

- To convert paper records into a comprehensive electronic database.

**Stakeholder Engagement:**

- To meet the expectations of all stakeholders.

**Operational Efficiency:**

- To address staffing shortages and modernizing systems.

During the Fiscal Year 2025 budget hearing, the Executive Director of the Virgin Islands Taxicab Commission announced the agency's intent to digitally transform its legacy paper records into an electronic records management system. As of this report, the *initiative remains pending*.

**FUND FLOW ANALYSIS**

The Agency's Fiscal Year 2025 fund flow analysis outlines the VITCC's budget across five key components: appropriations, allotted amount, obligations, expenditures and balance available.

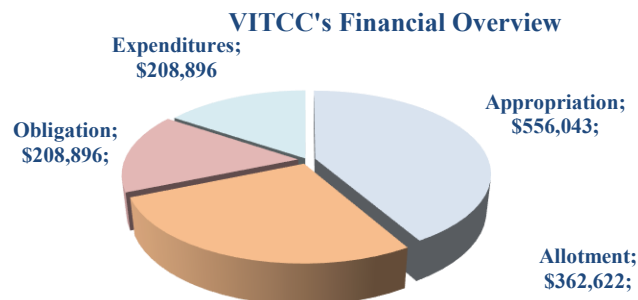
Dept.	Fund Source	Appropriation	Allotted as of August 15, 2025	Obligated	Expended as of June 30, 2025	Balance	Remarks
VITCC	General	\$556,043	\$362,622	\$208,896	\$208,896	\$347,107	\$ 193,981 unallotted

*Exhibit I*

For Fiscal Year 2025, the Virgin Islands Taxicab Commission was appropriated **\$556,603** from the General Fund. As of the reporting date:

- **\$362,622** has been **allotted**, representing **65%** of the total appropriation.
- Of the amount allotted, **\$208,896** has been both **obligated and expended**, accounting for **38%** of the total appropriation and **58%** of the funds allotted.
- A **balance of \$347,107** remains, which constitutes **63%** of the total appropriation.
- Of the remaining balance, **\$193,981** (or **35%** of the total appropriation) remains **unallotted**.

This data suggests a *moderate rate of fund utilization*, with over one-third of the appropriation yet to be released and a significant portion of allotted funds still unobligated six weeks from the end of the fiscal year.



## **FISCAL YEAR 2026 BUDGET SUMMARY**

The Governor has recommended a Fiscal Year 2026 General Fund lump sum appropriation of **\$556,043** for the Virgin Islands Taxicab Commission, to be funded through the *Miscellaneous Section* of the budget. A three-year financial summary of VITCC's budget activity is presented in **Exhibit II**.

Description	FY 2024 Actuals	FY 2025 Revised Budget	FY 2026 Recommendations	Variance
<b>Taxi License Fund</b>				
Personnel Services	\$224,429	\$255,678	\$255,678	-
Fringe Benefits	123,752	139,925	139,925	-
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>348,180</b>	<b>395,603</b>	<b>395,603</b>	-
<b>Tourism Advertising Revolving Fund</b>				-
Personnel Services	-	-	100,463	100,463
Fringe Benefits	-	-	44,977	44,977
Funding for Existing Vacant Positions	-	145,440	-	(145,440)
Supplies	-	10,000	10,000	-
Other Services	-	5,000	5,000	-
<b>Subtotal</b>	-	<b>160,440</b>	<b>160,440</b>	-
<b>Grand Totals</b>	<b>\$348,180</b>	<b>\$556,043</b>	<b>\$556,043</b>	-

*Exhibit II*

## **EXPENDITURES**

*Exhibit III* displays a detailed listing of the Commission's FY 2024 actual expenditures, FY 2025 expenditures as of June 30, 2025, and FY 2025 Projections. According to *Virgin Islands Taxicab Commission*.

Line Items	FY 2024 Actuals	Year to Date Oct 1, 2024- June 30, 2025	FY 2026 Projections
<b>Personnel Services</b>			
Classified Employee Salaries	\$93,887	\$51,198	\$354,289
Unclassified Employee Salaries	71,077	48,238	347,000
Overtime Salaries	412	33	-
Fees & compensation NOC	-	-	-
Holiday Pay	14,815	11,479	-
All Other	31,187	20,183	-
<b>Total Personnel Services</b>	<b>211,378</b>	<b>131,131</b>	<b>701,289</b>
<b>Fringe Benefits</b>			
Employer's Contribution Retirement	46,876	27,776	164,803
FICA	13,132	8,279	43,480
Medicare	3,071	1,936	10,169
Health Insurance Premium	53,352	36,174	125,413
Workers Compensation Premium	-	-	2,912
All Other	430	2,404	159
<b>Total Fringe Benefits</b>	<b>116,861</b>	<b>76,569</b>	<b>346,936</b>
<b>Supplies</b>			
Office Supplies	-	1,196	10,000
Operating Supplies	-	-	25,000



Line Items	FY 2024 Actuals	Year to Date Oct 1, 2024- June 30, 2025	FY 2026 Projections
Small Tools/Minor Equipment	-	-	10,800
<b>Total Supplies</b>	-	<b>1,196</b>	<b>45,800</b>
<b>Other Services &amp; Charges</b>			
Professional Services	-	-	210,000
Communication	-	-	5,000
Travel	-	-	16,000
Transportation- Not Travel	-	-	2,000
Advertising & Promotion	-	-	10,000
Printing & Binding	-	-	2,000
Repairs & Maintenance	-	-	10,000
Rental- Land & Building	-	-	12,000
Training	-	-	4,000
All Other	-	-	-
<b>Total Other Services &amp; Charges</b>	-	-	<b>271,000</b>
<b>Capital Outlays</b>			
Machinery & equipment	-	-	15,000
Vehicles	-	-	120,000
<b>Total Capital Outlays</b>	-	-	<b>135,000</b>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$328,239</b>	<b>\$208,896</b>	<b>\$1,500,025</b>

*Exhibit III*

### **PERSONNEL SERVICES**

The Virgin Islands Taxicab Commission has a total of thirteen (13) authorized positions, of which only three (3) are currently filled, while ten (10) remain vacant. A detailed listing of personnel services are presented in **Exhibit IV**.

Positions	Salary	Status
Executive Director	\$90,000	FILLED
Administrative Secretary	43,528	FILLED
Collection Clerk	41,455	FILLED
Assistant Executive Director	72,000	VACANT
Chief Inspector	75,000	VACANT
Administrative Enforcement Coordinator	50,000	VACANT
Administrative Secretary	37,244	VACANT
Fiscal Officer/ H. R. Coordinator	60,000	VACANT
Taxi Inspector	46,413	VACANT
Taxi Inspector	46,413	VACANT
Taxi Inspector	46,413	VACANT
Taxi Inspector	46,413	VACANT
Taxi Inspector	46,413	VACANT
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$701,289</b>	<b>13</b>

*Exhibit IV*

## LEASED PROPERTY

The Commission's leased property agreement includes multiple cost components, such as the square footage charges, as well as electricity and the cost of water tied specifically to the leased office space.

Landlord	Physical Address	Sq. Ft.	Annual Rent
Department of Property & Procurement	1 <sup>st</sup> Floor Building No. 1 Subbase, St. Thomas	1,600	\$12,000

*Exhibit V*

Lease agreement expired on September 30, 2015. No lease agreement was renewed, and no payments have been made to Department of Property & Procurement for the past several years

## VEHICLE LISTING

*Exhibit VI* provides a detailed listing of the Commission's vehicles.

St. Thomas / St. John District					
Tag No.	Year	Model	Make	Maintenance	Gasoline
TCC-6	2020	Chevy	Equinox	\$504	\$ 1,155
TCC-10	2020	Chevy	Equinox	596	1,446
			<b>Totals</b>	<b>1,100</b>	<b>2,601</b>
St. Croix District					
Tag No.	Year	Model	Make	Maintenance	Gasoline
TCC -2	2020	Chevy	Equinox	-	-
TCC -5	2020	Chevy	Equinox	728	-
			<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$728</b>	<b>\$-</b>

*Exhibit VI*

## OUTSTANDING OBLIGATIONS

The Virgin Islands Taxicab Commission has an outstanding prior year obligation totaling **\$7,515**.

Vendors	Amount	Status
Property & Procurement (Gasoline)	\$7,515	Prior Years Obligations
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$7,515</b>	

*Exhibit VII*



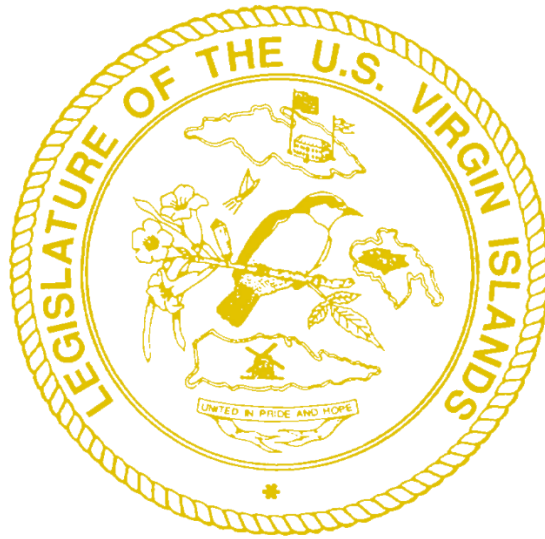
## SUMMARY

The Governor has recommended a Fiscal Year 2026 General Fund lump sum appropriation of **\$556,043** for the Virgin Islands Taxicab Commission, to be funded through the *Miscellaneous Section* of the budget. This amount includes \$556,043 in combined funding from two sources: the Taxicab License Fund (\$395,603) and the Tourism Advertising Revolving Fund (\$160,440).

\$556,043	Governor's General Fund Lump Sum Recommendation
<b>\$556,043</b>	<b>FY 2026 Total Operating Budget</b>



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