



United States Virgin Islands

Bureau of Corrections

FY 2027 BUDGET TESTIMONY

DIRECTOR WYNNIE TESTAMARK
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VIRGIN ISLANDS BUREAU OF CORRECTIONS

FY 2027 BUDGET TESTIMONY

Good morning, Chairman Novelle E. Francis, Jr., Vice-Chairman Marvin A. Blyden, esteemed Members of the Committee on Budget, Appropriations, and Finance, Senator Violet, Senator DeGraff, Senator Fonseca, Senator Frederick, and Senator James, distinguished Members of the 36th Legislature of the Virgin Islands, legislative staff, and all those joining us in person and virtually via YouTube and Facebook.

My name is Wynnie Testamark, and I have the honor and privilege of serving as the Director of the Virgin Islands Bureau of Corrections. Today, I appear before you with deep respect and a renewed sense of purpose to present Governor Albert Bryan Jr.'s Fiscal Year 2027 Proposed Executive Budget for the Bureau of Corrections.

Before we delve into the details of our testimony, allow me to introduce my committed management team, each a pillar in our daily operations and strategic vision:

- Peter Abrahams, Assistant Director of Support Services
- Dr. Linda Callwood, Medical Director
- Dr. Kyza A. Callwood, Chief Strategy Officer, and Acting PIO
- Cathy Munro, Fiscal and Budget Manager
- Mrs. Phillis Hodge-Gumbs, Human Resources Manager
- Ms. Sandra Nesbitt, Financial Specialist

Several other key members of our management team are also present in the chambers, ready to provide insight and clarity where needed.

Overview

The mission of the Virgin Islands Bureau of Corrections is to provide the fair and secure supervision of all individuals under our custody, support their successful reintegration into society, safeguard the public, and ensure the safety of our personnel. Our vision is to evolve into an accredited, premier correctional agency recognized globally for innovation, stability, and operational excellence.

The Fiscal Year 2027 budget represents a strategic investment in public safety, underscoring our dual commitment to security and effective re-entry programming. Governor Bryan's proposed budget affirms that strong, well-managed correctional operations are fundamental to community safety. This funding is part of a comprehensive strategy to build a safer and more resilient Virgin Islands.

As we reflect on our accomplishments, I extend sincere appreciation for the dedication, professionalism, and resilience demonstrated by the entire staff of the Virgin Islands Bureau of Corrections. Every team member plays an essential role in advancing our mission and serving the community with integrity. I am deeply grateful for their steadfast commitment, particularly during challenging circumstances, and it is through their collective effort that we continue to make a meaningful difference in the lives of those entrusted to our care.

I also proudly recognize and congratulate our 2026 Employee of the Year honorees: Food Services Administrator Sonia Joseph-Ganzy (St. Croix District) and Administrative Officer Joan Thomas (St. Thomas District). Their exemplary performance, leadership, and unwavering dedication have established a standard of excellence across the organization. Their contributions have strengthened our operations and continue to inspire their colleagues to pursue higher levels of achievement.

Inside the Numbers

The FY27 Proposed Budget totals \$36,476,665, representing an increase of \$462,171 (1.3%) compared with the FY26 Revised Budget of \$36,014,494. The proposed budget reflects targeted investments in personnel-related costs while maintaining overall fiscal discipline across operational categories.

This request reflects a disciplined and strategic investment in public safety, institutional security, employee retention, inmate care, and operational sustainability. While maintaining fiscal restraint, the Bureau has successfully redirected resources toward critical mission priorities, reduced certain contractual expenditures, stabilized staffing operations, and improved accountability over public funds.

The FY 2027 budget demonstrates measurable returns on investment through:

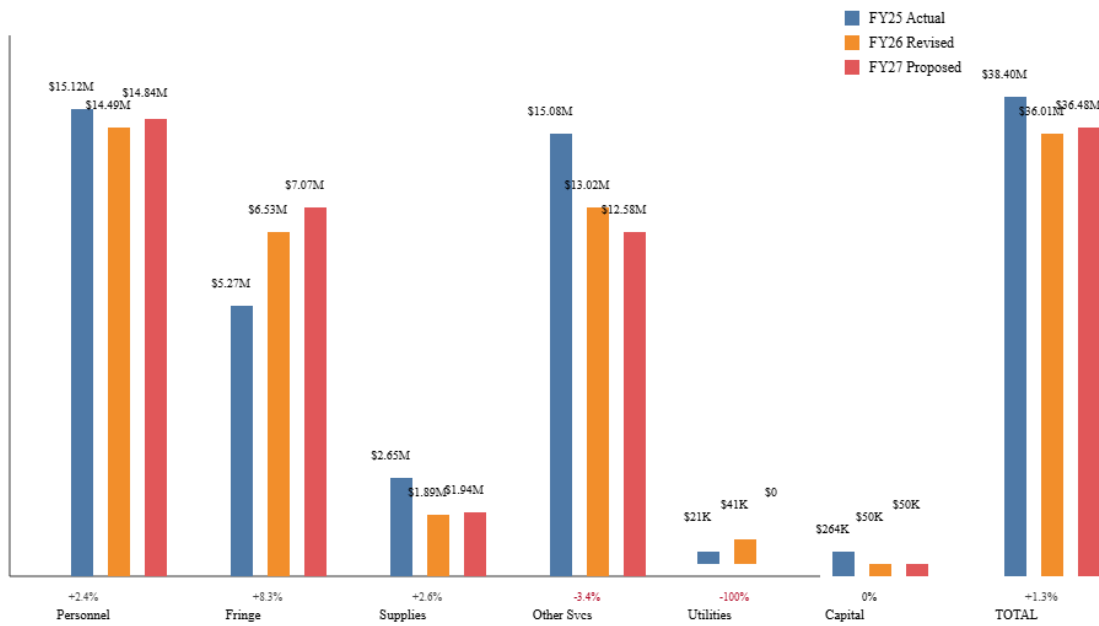
- Continued reduction in overtime dependency from FY 2025 actual expenditures.
- Increased investment in employee benefits and workforce stabilization.
- Enhanced inmate nutrition and healthcare/dental care/mental health support.
- Sustained institutional operations without significant growth in overall appropriations.
- Continued compliance with correctional standards and public safety mandates.

Every dollar requested supports the Bureau's constitutional responsibility to safely house, supervise, rehabilitate, and prepare incarcerated individuals for successful reintegration into society while protecting the residents of the Virgin Islands. The Bureau remains committed to operational excellence, fiscal accountability, transparency, and measurable outcomes.

BUDGET-TO-BUDGET ANALYSIS

Category	FY25 Actual	FY26 Revised by OMB	FY27 Proposed	Change FY26-FY27	% Change
Personnel Services	\$15,118,817	\$14,492,709	\$14,840,125	+\$347,416	+2.4%
Fringe Benefits	\$5,265,648	\$6,526,591	\$7,071,426	+\$544,835	+8.3%
Supplies	\$2,653,136	\$1,885,999	\$1,935,592	+\$49,593	+2.6%
Other Services	\$15,081,348	\$13,018,403	\$12,579,522	-\$438,881	-3.4%
Utility Services	\$21,323	\$40,792	\$0	-\$40,792	-100%
Capital Projects	\$263,539	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$0	0%
TOTAL	\$38,403,812	\$36,014,494	\$36,476,665	+\$462,171	+1.3%

Budget-to-Budget Analysis (FY25–FY27)



MAJOR BUDGET DRIVERS

Personnel and Benefits

The Personnel and Fringe Benefits account reflects a total workforce investment of \$21.91 million, consisting of salaries, fringe benefits, overtime, shift differentials, and employee uniform allowances. At the heart of our operations are sworn staff, and support staff inclusive of clinicians, counselors, human resources, information technology, and maintenance work tirelessly around the clock. Personnel costs are the cornerstone of our expenditures, with 223 positions budgeted for FY27. Of these, 154 are currently filled and 69 remain vacant. Some positions are funded at 50% (15) and 75% (2), allowing us flexibility while remaining fiscally responsible. Among these positions, 163 are classified, while 60 are unclassified, each essential to the functioning of a system that never sleeps.

FY27 Personnel Summary

Category	Salaries	Fringe	Total Cost
Filled Positions	\$9,906,438.53	\$5,144,447.79	\$15,050,886.32
Vacant Positions	\$3,433,689.38	\$1,800,631.21	\$5,234,320.59
Differentials	\$1,500,000.00	\$116,346.00	\$1,616,346.00
Uniform Allowance	\$0.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
Total	\$14,840,127.91	\$7,071,425.00	\$21,911,552.91

Personnel Cost Distribution

- Filled positions account for 68.7% of total personnel expenditures only.
- Vacant positions account for 23.9% of total personnel expenditures only.
- Differentials account for 7.4% of total personnel expenditures only.

Fringe Benefits- Fringe benefits total \$7.07 million, representing approximately 47.7% of salary costs. This includes retirement contributions, health insurance, payroll taxes, and other employee benefit obligations. The addition of a \$10,000 uniform allowance supports required employee uniforms and contributes to workforce readiness and professional standards. Combined personnel costs are projected at \$21.0 million in FY 2026, increasing to \$21.9 million in FY 2027, reflecting an overall upward adjustment of approximately \$892,251.

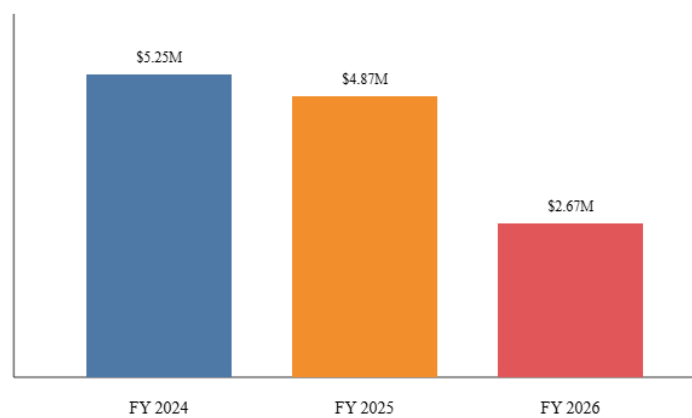
This increase is primarily driven by rising health insurance premium costs and statutory retirement contribution obligations, both of which continue to escalate independent of staffing levels. Additional pressure stems from ongoing workforce retention initiatives, as well as targeted salary and compensation adjustments designed to maintain a competitive pay structure and stabilize critical staffing within the correctional system. Collectively, these factors reflect a structurally driven increase in personnel-related expenditures, consistent with broader trends in public sector benefit and compensation costs.

Overtime Management - FY 2026 expenditures, as of June 8, 2026, totalled \$2,671,802.62, signalling a significant reduction compared to the previous two fiscal years. Expenditures thus far decreased by \$2,202,073.30 (45.2%) from the FY 2025 actual expenditure of \$4,873,875.92 and by \$2,573,909.63 (49.1%) from the FY 2024 actual expenditure of \$5,245,712.25.

For comparison, FY 2025 expenditures of \$4,873,875.92 were slightly lower than FY 2024 expenditures of \$5,245,712.25, reflecting a decrease of \$371,836.33 (7.1%). The overall trend demonstrates a modest decline between FY 2024 and FY 2025, followed by a much more substantial reduction in FY 2026.

Because FY 2026 figures are reported through June 8, 2026, expenditures may increase before the close of the fiscal year as additional obligations and payments are processed. Nevertheless, the year-to-date spending level reflects a significant reduction when compared to the same period in prior years. Notably, the current FY 2026 expenditure level reflects improved scheduling practices and workforce stabilization efforts, while maintaining operational effectiveness and fiscal responsibility.

FY 2024–FY 2026 Expenditures Trend



Correction Officers, Supervisors and Civilian Employees - Correctional officers and supervisors remain the backbone of the Bureau, representing approximately 43% of our workforce. Despite persistent staffing challenges, they have continued to carry out our mission with professionalism, dedication, and resilience.

To recognize their service and strengthen workforce stability, the Bureau has fully implemented negotiated salary increases under collective bargaining agreements and government pay plans. This includes all negotiated raises for the Law Enforcement Supervisors' Union (LESU) for FY 2019 through FY 2023, the Seafarers International Union (SIU) for FY 2020 through FY 2025, SIU Masters for FY 2018 through FY 2023, and United Steelworkers (USW) Supervisors for FY 2019 through FY 2022. In addition, General Schedule (GS) non-union salary adjustments have been implemented through FY 2025. All employees earning below \$35,000 annually have also been brought up to a minimum salary of \$35,000. Currently, we are working with the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to finalize pending salary increases for the Bureau's nurses. We anticipate that the review and approval process will be completed within the next two weeks.

The Bureau continues to prioritize workforce development through expanded recruitment efforts, including radio advertisements, career fairs, continuous job postings, examination waivers for qualified applicants, and close coordination with the Division of Personnel to streamline hiring. These initiatives have contributed to an increase in correctional recruit applications and new hires across both districts.

The Bureau remains committed to maintaining a competitive compensation structure, improving employee retention, and ensuring a professional workforce capable of meeting the public safety needs of the Virgin Islands. We thank our correctional officers, supervisors, and support staff for their continued dedication and service.

BOC UNION CONTRACT INFORMATION

Union / Unit	Effective Date	Expiration Date	Governor Signed
SIU (Correctional Officers)	10/1/2020	9/30/2025	9/29/2022
SIU Masters	9/1/2018	9/30/2023	12/27/2018
LESU	10/1/2018	9/30/2022	12/27/2018
USW Supervisors	10/1/2018	9/30/2022	1/3/2019

Vendor Payments

Vendor payments total \$14.5 million out of a \$36,476,665 total budget, representing approximately 39.7% of total expenditures. This positions vendor obligations as the second-largest budgetary category after personnel costs, reflecting the Bureau's significant reliance on external service providers to sustain operations and maintain facility functionality.

The most significant component of vendor spending is associated with the housing and feeding of off-island inmates, budgeted at \$7.9 million in FY 2025. This estimate excludes inmate healthcare costs, which represent additional variable expenditures and increase the total cost of off-island incarceration.

As of the current reporting period, there are 39 outstanding vendor invoices totaling \$3,848,421.58, which remain in various stages of review, and processing, and \$957,919.46 of

the overall total is in the payment stage within the ERP system. The Bureau continues to prioritize timely liquidation of obligations and has implemented ongoing measures to expedite invoice processing and reduce aging payables.

While periodic delays in the broader government disbursement process, including within the Department of Finance, have affected payment timing, all essential correctional services for inmates and staff have remained fully operational and uninterrupted. The Bureau maintains active coordination and communication with vendors to manage cash flow expectations, mitigate operational risk, and ensure continuity of critical services.

Settlement Agreement Update

The FY 2027 budget includes \$1.2 million for court-appointed monitors and expert services, representing a required and ongoing legal obligation under two active federal consent decrees governing the John A. Bell Adult Correctional Facility (St. Croix) and the Alexander A. Farrelly Criminal Justice Complex (St. Thomas). These expenditures remain mandatory for the duration of court oversight and are integral to maintaining compliance.

The V.I. Department of Justice (DOJ) serves as lead counsel for both settlement agreements. In a coordinated effort to advance toward resolution, DOJ and the Bureau have engaged Butler Snow, LLC, a nationally recognized firm with specialized expertise in correctional systems litigation and consent decree termination strategies. The firm operates under DOJ supervision and utilizes a structured approach to assess and achieve sustain compliance and eventual dismissal of federal oversight.

Recent developments in the St. Croix Settlement Agreement marks a significant milestone. Following more than forty years of federal supervision, the District Court of the U.S. Virgin Islands has granted the territory's joint motion to terminate the medical provisions of the settlement agreement as reflected in a declaration filed in July 2025. During the November 20, 2025, status hearing, Judge Wilma Lewis recognized the Bureau's sustained and verifiable compliance with constitutional medical and dental care standards, noting that longstanding deficiencies have been replaced with stable, modern, and compliant systems. Court-appointed monitors similarly reported continued progress across additional operational areas. The termination of the medical/dental care provisions represents a critical juncture and signals entry into the final phase of compliance.

In parallel, a status conference in the St. Thomas Settlement Agreement held on May 14, 2026, before Chief Judge Robert Molloy reflected continued engagement and ongoing evaluation of compliance progress.

These developments reflect a deliberate transition from compliance management to compliance sustainability, positioning the Bureau for eventual termination of the remaining settlement agreement obligations.

US Marshal Service - The Virgin Islands Bureau of Corrections maintains a revenue-generating intergovernmental agreement with the U.S. Marshals Service, under which the Bureau provides secure housing and related services for federal detainees. This arrangement leverages existing correctional capacity to support federal detention needs while creating a reimbursable revenue stream for the Territory.

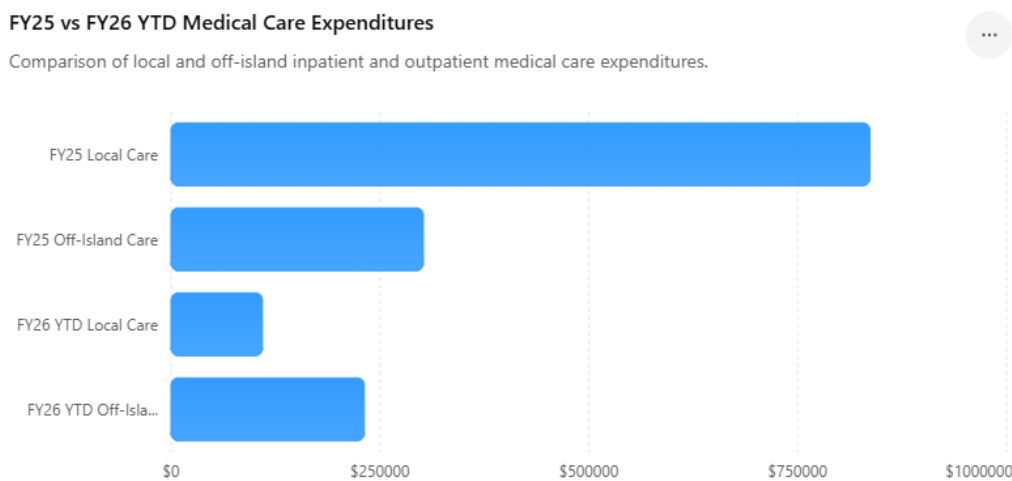
In exchange for these services, the U.S. Marshals Service compensates the Bureau on a cost-recovery basis, providing a supplemental funding source that supports operational continuity and facility maintenance. Under this framework, the Bureau received \$678,200 in FY 2025 and \$204,000 to date in FY 2026.

This partnership enhances the Bureau’s financial efficiency by monetizing available bed capacity, diversifying revenue streams, and strengthening overall fiscal sustainability while maintaining required standards of secure custody and inmate care.

Healthcare and Inmate Services - The Bureau remains committed to meeting constitutional healthcare obligations while controlling costs through enhanced oversight and contract management.

As of June 2026, the Bureau houses 181 inmates locally – 70 (62-D, 8-I) at CJC and 111 (60 - D, 51-I) at John Bell. Of the inmates housed locally, 169 are male, and 12 are female. In addition, the Bureau houses 170 inmates off-island at facilities in Virginia (33), and Mississippi (137). All 351 prisoners in Bureau custody – including those housed off-island – must be fed, housed, transported, and cared for at the Bureau’s expense. Later this year, we intend to visit our inmates in Virginia and Mississippi to ensure that they were properly treated and to respond to their concerns, along with meeting key prison officials, review inmate files to ensure they were up to date and hold one-on-one discussions with each inmate.

The expense of incarcerating a prisoner in the Virgin Islands exceeds twice the cost on the mainland. Currently, the Bureau estimates that maintaining an inmate in the territory amounts to \$320 per day, compared to approximately \$85 (CoreCivic) to \$109.58 (Virginia) per day in mainland correctional facilities. In FY26 to date, the Bureau spent a total of \$340,581.46 for inpatient and outpatient services, comprising \$109,349.92 for local medical care and \$231,231.54 for off-island medical care. Note that there are outstanding vendor payments for medical care totalling \$1,247,339.27. In FY25, the Bureau spent a total of 1,138,548.41 for inpatient and outpatient services, comprising \$836,599.41 for local medical care and \$301,949.00 for off-island medical care.



Mental health care remains a critical component of correctional healthcare. Consequently, the Bureau of Corrections has become and continues to be the primary providers of mental health services in the Territory. Presently, approximately 40% of inmates within Bureau facilities receive some form of mental health treatment.

Greater Reliance on Grants and Alternative Funding Sources - The Bureau has adopted a deliberate strategy to expand and optimize federal grant funding as a mechanism to offset General Fund expenditures associated with correctional operations, including offender programming, medical services, and infrastructure investments. Each dollar secured through external funding sources directly reduces reliance on local appropriations while strengthening programmatic capacity and service delivery.

The Bureau maintains an active and diversified federal grants portfolio, with no grant funds currently expiring at fiscal year-end 2026. The portfolio is anchored by multiple awards under the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP) and complementary federal initiatives supporting territorial development and institutional capacity building.

Current grant activity is as follows reflecting a stable and scalable external funding base:

- **Current period funding:** \$1,273,830
- **Active grant funding:** \$400,000
- **Total cumulative project funding:** \$1,673,830

This diversified grant portfolio enables the Bureau to enhance correctional programming, expand rehabilitative services, and strengthen operational infrastructure while mitigating pressure on the General Fund. Continued emphasis will be placed on maximizing federal reimbursement opportunities and aligning grant utilization with strategic priorities that improve public safety outcomes, reduce recidivism, and support long-term system sustainability.

Accomplishments and Initiatives During Last Fiscal Year

Under the Bryan/Roach Administration, BOC has continued to record concrete accomplishments that improve the agency's outlook and make it better able to achieve its core mission objectives in the long term. BOC's many accomplishments include:

Designing and Implementing an Effective Re-entry Program - The Bureau remains committed to reducing repeat involvement in the justice system by focusing on evidence-based rehabilitation and re-entry programs. These programs are designed to support individuals as they transition from custody back into the community, with the goal of reducing the likelihood that they will commit new offenses after release.

In 2025, a total of 161 individuals were released from custody across the St. Croix and St. Thomas/St. John districts. After release, these individuals were followed over a three-year period to see how many were arrested again for new offenses. This type of follow-up is commonly used to measure what is known as 'recidivism,' which generally refers to a person returning to the justice system after being released.

The results of this three-year review showed that 30 individuals were rearrested during the period studied. This means that about 19 out of every 100 people released were arrested again, which equals a recidivism rate of approximately 18.6%. The remaining majority, 131

individuals did not have a new arrest during the three-year follow-up period. When compared to the 2022 cohort recidivism rate of 11.0%, the 2023 cohort experienced an increase of 7.6 percentage points. One contributing factor to re-offending is the lack of stable housing upon release. Many individuals return to the community without a permanent residence, transitional housing, or adequate family support. The absence of safe and stable housing can create significant barriers to securing employment, accessing services, maintaining compliance with supervision requirements, and successfully reintegrating into society. Addressing housing instability through coordinated re-entry planning and supportive housing initiatives may help reduce recidivism and improve long-term outcomes for returning citizens.

To understand what this means, it is helpful to compare it to national trends in the United States. Studies conducted by the Bureau of Justice Statistics show that, on average, about 68 out of every 100 people released from state prisons are rearrested within three years. Compared to this national benchmark, the rate observed in this cohort is significantly lower.

While this comparison provides useful context, it is important to note that differences in population, supervision conditions, and program support can all influence outcomes. The Bureau continues to invest in rehabilitation and re-entry services to support long-term public safety and reduce repeat involvement in the justice system.

Chaplaincy Program - The Bureau's Chaplaincy Program provides voluntary faith-based services that support the spiritual growth, emotional well-being, and rehabilitation of incarcerated individuals. Services include Bible studies, worship and prayer services, individual and group counseling, and family outreach initiatives. These programs contribute to a positive correctional environment and support successful rehabilitation and re-entry outcomes. The Bureau employs a full-time Chaplain, Mr. Berkitt and we thank the numerous faith-based organizations that their time to our offender population.

Vocational and Educational Programs - The Bureau continues to expand educational and vocational opportunities that support rehabilitation and successful re-entry. In partnership with the University of the Virgin Islands Center for Excellence in Leadership and Learning (UVI CELL), the Bureau celebrated graduates of the Transforming Lives Academy, a first-of-its-kind initiative that enables incarcerated individuals to earn high school diplomas and industry-recognized certificates.

The Bureau has also partnered with Promising People to implement innovative virtual reality (VR)-based training, providing immersive, self-paced learning experiences that enhance workforce readiness and skill development.

In FY 2024, 38 inmates participated in various educational programs. In FY 2025, participation increased to 83 inmates. As of June 2026, a total of 76 inmates (JABAC: 46; CJC: 30) were enrolled in educational, vocational, and rehabilitative programs across both districts, including high school completion, GED preparation, re-entry services, computer literacy, and cognitive behavioral programming.

Overall, this reflects a cumulative total of 197 program participations across FY 2024 through FY 2026.

The inmate graduation ceremony at the John A. Bell Adult Correctional Facility (JAB) and the Criminal Justice Complex (CJC) was held on June 17, 2026, and the Family Fun Day event will be held on June 19, 2026, and June 20, 2026, respectively.

Graduation Program Outcomes

John A. Bell Adult Correctional Facility (JABAC)

- 37 program completions recognized
- 3 inmates earned High School Diplomas
- 23 inmates completed vocational training programs
- 27 inmates completed rehabilitation programs
- 3 inmates received special recognition for achievement and progress in the Tutoring Program

Criminal Justice Complex (CJC)

- 13 program completions recognized
- 1 inmate earned a High School Diploma
- 12 inmates completed rehabilitation programs

These accomplishments reflect the Bureau's continued commitment to education, rehabilitation, and successful re-entry initiatives that support positive inmate outcomes.

Inmate Work Programs - The Bureau's inmate work programs provide meaningful employment opportunities that support rehabilitation, skill development, and successful re-entry while contributing to facility operations and generating cost savings for the Government. Participants engage in maintenance, agriculture, horticulture, and public works projects, including assignments supporting various government agencies to include Department of Agriculture, Department of Public Works, Virgin Islands Department of Education, Department of Sports, Parks and Recreation, Government House, WTJX, and the Virgin Islands Department of Property & Procurement. Currently, 56 inmates; 43 at John Bell Adult Correctional Facility and 13 at the Criminal Justice Complex are actively participating in work programs that promote accountability, workforce readiness, and productive community engagement. During FY26, the inmate work program generated an estimated \$120,000 in cost savings to the Government of the Virgin Islands, equating to a total of 500 hours for approximately 20 individuals who participated in external work programs.

Swan Annex – In coordination with the Office of Disaster Recovery (ODR), BOC finalized architectural designs for a new 207-bed facility at the Swan Annex site and now ODR is the lead on the project.

John Bell – In coordination with Witt O'Brien and DLR Group, we continue to work on the development of the drawings for the security fence. The design process is progressing as we collaborate with all stakeholders to ensure the project meets operational requirements. Upon completion of the drawings and necessary reviews, the project will advance to the next phase.

Upgrades at John Bell & CJC - The Bureau continues to make targeted capital improvements across both facilities to ensure uninterrupted operations, enhance security, and improve inmate care:

- Security Systems: 100% completion of energy-efficient perimeter lighting at John Bell
- We are currently collaborating with D&B Engineering to review and refine the draft design for the new fire alarm and fire suppression system at the John Bell facility.
- Expanded mental and medical health units to provide comprehensive inmate care.

Successful Completion of Parole Hearings – The Parole Board conducted its biannual parole hearings in December 2025, reviewing applications from eligible inmates. Of the cases considered, four (4) inmates were granted parole, thirty-five (35) were denied, and one (1) applicant withdrew prior to the hearing. The Bureau extends its appreciation to the Parole Board members for their dedication and commitment to ensuring a fair and thorough review process while balancing public safety considerations. The next parole hearings are scheduled for June 2026 for offenders eligible and recommended to the Parole Board.

National Correctional Officers & Employees Week and National Nurses Week – In recognition of the dedication and professionalism of its workforce, the Bureau hosted a series of employee appreciation activities from May 3–9, 2026. The observance celebrated the invaluable contributions of correctional officers, nurses, and support staff whose efforts are essential to the Bureau’s operations and continued progress. On May 8, 2026, employees were recognized through awards, certificates, commemorative gifts, and a special appreciation luncheon for their contributions to the removal of medical/dental care provisions in the St. Croix consent decree.

Virgin Islands Dignity Bus Initiative – On February 12, 2026, the Bureau hosted a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Territory’s first Dignity Bus on St. Croix. This innovative mobile support unit provides temporary assistance to individuals experiencing homelessness, transitioning from incarceration, or facing personal crises. Equipped with shower and laundry facilities, a kitchen, sleeping accommodations, and connections to meals and supportive services, the Dignity Bus reflects the Bureau’s commitment to promoting successful re-entry, restoring dignity, and strengthening community support systems. To date, we have serviced 85 individuals and connected them to various services. We also partnered with My Brother’s Table in Frederiksted.

Transitional Home - To date, the program has served 15 individuals. While the Transitional Home provides a structured and supportive environment designed to assist participants with their successful reintegration into the community, several individuals have chosen to leave the program shortly after admission. Feedback received indicates that some residents perceive living on the correctional facility grounds as an extension of incarceration, making it difficult for them to embrace the transition process. Despite this challenge, the program continues to provide transitional housing to individuals seeking successful reintegration into the community.

Conclusion

Mr. Chairman, under the leadership of the Bryan-Roach Administration, the Virgin Islands Bureau of Corrections continues to advance a modern, accountable, and results-driven correctional system focused on public safety, rehabilitation, and operational excellence through commitments that have not only been made but meaningfully delivered. Through strategic investments in our workforce, infrastructure, inmate programming, and compliance initiatives, the Bureau is delivering measurable outcomes while positioning the Territory for long-term success.

The Governor's FY 2027 budget provides the resources necessary to maintain safe and secure facilities, strengthen rehabilitation and re-entry efforts, support our dedicated employees, and continue progress toward the successful resolution of longstanding challenges. These investments are not merely expenditures, they are investments in safer communities, reduced recidivism, and a stronger Virgin Islands.

The Bureau remains committed to innovation, fiscal responsibility, and continuous improvement, and we welcome constructive partnerships and solutions that further our mission. I respectfully request your favorable consideration of the Bureau's FY 2027 budget request.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this testimony. My team and I stand ready to answer any questions you may have.

Outstanding Payments Stage

DOCUMENT	VENDOR	NAME	INVOICE	P.O.	INV DATE	INVOICE NET	INVOICE DESCRIPTION
2707047	1281	ABC JANITORS OF ST CROIX INC	113570	6324	5/22/2026	1,650.00	JANITORIAL SUPPLIES-BOC/STX
2704741	34059	AKILAH A. ROBERTS	UA-26-122		5/12/2026	300.00	UNIFORM ALLOWANCE FY'2026-BOC STX
2684365	54239	AMDAN INC.	60110	12147	1/31/2026	2,629.92	DRUGS AND PHARMACEUTICALS-BOC/STT
2684366	54239	AMDAN INC.	60110OTC	12147	1/31/2026	375.43	DRUGS AND PHARMACEUTICALS-BOC/STT
2688961	54239	AMDAN INC.	60111OTC	12147	2/28/2026	200.06	DRUGS AND PHARMACEUTICALS-BOC/STT
2688962	54239	AMDAN INC.	60111	12147	2/28/2026	850.70	DRUGS AND PHARMACEUTICALS-BOC/STT
2692640	54239	AMDAN INC.	60112OTC	12147	3/31/2026	596.12	DRUGS AND PHARMACEUTICALS-BOC/STT
2704964	54239	AMDAN INC.	60113OTC	12147	4/30/2026	443.08	DRUGS AND PHARMACEUTICALS-BOC/STT
2704965	54239	AMDAN INC.	60113	12147	4/30/2026	1,219.84	DRUGS AND PHARMACEUTICALS-BOC/STT
2686917	24763	BROADBAND VI, LLC	N27730-254		2/28/2026	8,330.91	WIRELESS SVCS (3/1-31/2026) BOC-STX/STT
2686918	24763	BROADBAND VI, LLC	N27730-255		3/2/2026	300.00	BUSINESS PLATINUM WIRELESS CHARGES-BOC
2692588	24763	BROADBAND VI, LLC	N27730-257		3/31/2026	8,330.91	WIRELESS SVCS (4/01-30/2026) BOC-STX/STT
2704267	24763	BROADBAND VI, LLC	N27730-260		5/6/2026	2.00	LATE FEE
2704269	24763	BROADBAND VI, LLC	N27730-259		4/30/2026	8,330.91	WIRELESS SVCS (5/01-31/2026) BOC-STX/STT
2704738	62135	BRUNY, PHILLIP	UA-26-120		5/12/2026	300.00	UNIFORM ALLOWANCE FY'2026-BOC STX
2700164	33663	BUREAU OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	INV-000381-26-3		4/1/2026	1,125.00	CAI-100MB-M-ME- 4/01/2026-6/30/2026-BOC-STT
2700165	33663	BUREAU OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	INV-000382-26-3		4/1/2026	1,125.00	CAI-100MB-M-ME- 4/01/2026-6/30/2026-BOC-STX
2688988	49671	COC INTERNATIONAL	012071606 171	3869	3/9/2026	3,600.00	PLUMBING WORK-BOC/CJC-STX
2688997	55849	CORECIVIC OF TENNESSEE, LLC	1403-2-26VH	4147	3/2/2026	353,385.48	OFF ISLAND INMATE HOUSING-BOC
2704261	19585	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY	0000008157		5/1/2026	6,636.60	RENTAL-MAY 2026- ADIN OFFICE-BOC/STX
2700151	38156	FIRE EQUIPMENT SALES AND SERVICE	1727	5312	4/10/2026	605.00	INSPECT/LABEL FIRE EXTINGUISHER-BOC/STT
2704746	28354	FREDERICKS, MYRON	UA-26-111		5/12/2026	800.00	UNIFORM ALLOWANCE FY'2026-BOC STX
2707048	49065	HOME DEPOT	H8622-288672	6273	5/22/2026	1,748.70	JANITORIAL SUPPLIES- BAGS (BOC/STX)
2704259	67537	INDELIBLE MANAGEMENT SOLUTIONS, INC.	28	10962	5/4/2026	389,585.00	MEDICAL SVCS ASSISTANCE (APRIL 2026) BOC/STX-STT
2705203	64670	JOSEPH-GANZY,SONIA	1292026	5883	4/13/2026	2,226.87	REIMBURSEMENT COST/SUPPLIES-(BOC)
2706746	54457	KAC357, INC	260226-39-13-13-51	6541	2/26/2026	615.67	FOODS FOR INMATE MEALS-BOC/STX
2706754	54457	KAC357, INC	260304-39-13-13-40	6541	3/4/2026	615.67	FOODS FOR INMATE MEALS-BOC/STX
2706760	54457	KAC357, INC	260311-39-13-13-41	6541	3/11/2026	316.87	FOODS FOR INMATE MEALS-BOC/STX
2706765	54457	KAC357, INC	260318-39-13-13-21	6541	3/18/2026	316.87	FOODS FOR INMATE MEALS-BOC/STX
2706775	54457	KAC357, INC	260325-39-13-13-50	6541	3/25/2026	316.87	FOODS FOR INMATE MEALS-BOC/STX
2706778	54457	KAC357, INC	260401-673-14-14-7	6541	4/1/2026	316.87	FOODS FOR INMATE MEALS-BOC/STX
2706783	54457	KAC357, INC	260409-39-13-13-43	6541	4/9/2026	229.90	FOODS FOR INMATE MEALS-BOC/STX
2679861	55463	NEIGHBORHOOD PHARMACY, LLC	123125AF	12150	1/14/2026	6,221.63	DRUGS AND PHARMACEUTICALS-BOC/STT
2679862	55463	NEIGHBORHOOD PHARMACY, LLC	123125BOC	12150	1/14/2026	29,786.73	DRUGS AND PHARMACEUTICALS-BOC/STX
2681967	55463	NEIGHBORHOOD PHARMACY, LLC	013126AF	12150	2/3/2026	6,473.05	DRUGS AND PHARMACEUTICALS-BOC/STT
2681968	55463	NEIGHBORHOOD PHARMACY, LLC	012025BOC	12150	2/2/2026	17,610.50	DRUGS AND PHARMACEUTICALS-BOC/STT
2704747	28298	NISBETT, NAGALA	UA-26-113		5/12/2026	800.00	UNIFORM ALLOWANCE FY'2026-BOC STX
2679860	12282	OCEAN SYSTEMS LABORATORY INC	21996	10394	1/20/2026	100.00	WATER TESTING (JAN 2026) BOC/STT
2681961	12282	OCEAN SYSTEMS LABORATORY INC	22183	10394	2/4/2026	788.80	CHEMISTRY TESTING (FEB 2026) BOC/STT
2681962	12282	OCEAN SYSTEMS LABORATORY INC	22182	10394	2/4/2026	319.60	CHEMISTRY TESTING (FEB 2026) BOC/STT
2684820	12282	OCEAN SYSTEMS LABORATORY INC	22415	10394	2/19/2026	110.00	MONTHLY (FEB 2026) COLIFORM TEST -BOC/STT
2686923	12282	OCEAN SYSTEMS LABORATORY INC	22493	10394	3/3/2026	493.85	MONTHLY (MARCH 2026) CHEMISTRY TESTING -BOC/STT
2705180	12282	OCEAN SYSTEMS LABORATORY INC	23272	10394	5/6/2026	110.00	MONTHLY COLIFORM TEST (MAY 2026) BOC/STT
2705392	12313	ODP BUSINESS SOLUTIONS, LLC	454155585001	2008	1/22/2026	723.66	BATTERY BACKUP APC (BOC/STT)
2705393	12313	ODP BUSINESS SOLUTIONS, LLC	458083537001	2008	2/4/2026	1,284.31	BATTERY BACKUP APC (BOC/STT)
2704966	51635	POWERDMS, INC.	INV-153578		2/7/2026	9,824.34	POWERPOLICY PROFESSIONAL SUBSCRIPTION-BOC
2686916	13849	RANGER AMERICAN OF V.I., INC.	81021079		2/27/2026	6,330.24	SECURITY GUARD SVCS (2/02-02/16/2026) BOC/STX
2691517	13849	RANGER AMERICAN OF V.I., INC.	81021450		3/13/2026	6,330.24	SECURITY GUARD SVCS (2/16-3/01/2026) BOC/STX
2692533	13849	RANGER AMERICAN OF V.I., INC.	81021787		3/27/2026	6,330.24	SECURITY GUARD SVCS (3/02-15/2026) BOC/STX
2693690	13849	RANGER AMERICAN OF V.I., INC.	81022158		4/10/2026	6,330.24	SECURITY GUARD SVCS (3/16-29/2026) BOC/STX
2702927	13849	RANGER AMERICAN OF V.I., INC.	81022522		4/24/2026	6,646.08	SECURITY GUARD SVCS (3/30-4/12/2026) BOC/STX
2704957	13849	RANGER AMERICAN OF V.I., INC.	81022868		5/8/2026	6,791.74	SECURITY GUARD SVCS (4/13-4/26/2026)BOC/STX
2707040	13849	RANGER AMERICAN OF V.I., INC.	81023263		5/22/2026	7,328.16	SECURITY GUARD SVCS (4/27-5/10/2026) BOC/STX
2700141	15516	ST. CROIX GAS CO.	257110	5301	3/31/2026	7,767.36	GAS DELIVERY SVCS-(JAN, FEB & MARCH 2025)-BOC/STX
2700147	15607	ST. THOMAS GAS COMPANY	168190	5302	1/31/2026	2,842.56	GAS DELIVERY SVCS-(NOV & DEC 2025)-BOC/STT
2700149	15607	ST. THOMAS GAS COMPANY	168342	5302	3/31/2026	3,831.36	GAS DELIVERY SVCS-(JAN, FEB & MARCH 2026)-BOC/STT
2692605	74592	TIMEKEEPING SYSTEMS, INC.	393706	4784	1/9/2026	9,995.00	ANNUAL SUPPORT/HOSTING -BOC
2704742	65372	TORRES,SUSAN	UA-26-123		5/12/2026	300.00	UNIFORM ALLOWANCE FY'2026-BOC STX
2704748	28320	TROTMAN, CARLOS	UA-26-115		5/12/2026	800.00	UNIFORM ALLOWANCE FY'2026-BOC STX
2706609	58485	VIRGIN ISLANDS TELEPHONE CORPORATION	0162535455001-052026		5/8/2026	2,419.06	TELEPHONE 340-714-0047(MAY 2026) BOC/STT
2706611	58485	VIRGIN ISLANDS TELEPHONE CORPORATION	0162535455006-052026		5/8/2026	153.89	CABLE TV SERVICES (MAY 2026) BOC/STX
2706612	58485	VIRGIN ISLANDS TELEPHONE CORPORATION	0162535455008-052026		5/8/2026	92.21	TELEPHONE 340-779-3257 (MAY 2026) BOC/STX
2706614	58485	VIRGIN ISLANDS TELEPHONE CORPORATION	0162535455009-052026		5/8/2026	191.42	TELEPHONE 340-719-3240 (MAY 2026) BOC/STX
2706616	58485	VIRGIN ISLANDS TELEPHONE CORPORATION	0162535455010-052026		5/8/2026	98.21	TELEPHONE 340-719-3243 (MAY 2026) BOC/STX
2706618	58485	VIRGIN ISLANDS TELEPHONE CORPORATION	0162535455011-052026		5/8/2026	98.21	TELEPHONE 340-719-3245 (MAY 2026) BOC/STX
2706620	58485	VIRGIN ISLANDS TELEPHONE CORPORATION	0162535455012-052026		5/8/2026	92.21	TELEPHONE 340-778-2505 (MAY 2026) BOC/STT
2706621	58485	VIRGIN ISLANDS TELEPHONE CORPORATION	0162535455014-052026		5/8/2026	92.21	TELEPHONE 340-719-0388 (MAY 2026) BOC/STX
2706622	58485	VIRGIN ISLANDS TELEPHONE CORPORATION	0162535455016-052026		5/8/2026	569.64	CABLE TV SERVICES (MAY 2026) BOC/STX
2706623	58485	VIRGIN ISLANDS TELEPHONE CORPORATION	0162535455022-052026		5/8/2026	158.07	CABLE TV SERVICES (MAY 2026) BOC/STT
2706627	58485	VIRGIN ISLANDS TELEPHONE CORPORATION	0162535455024-052026		5/8/2026	402.94	TELEPHONE 340-714-8300 (MAY 2026) BOC/STT
2706629	58485	VIRGIN ISLANDS TELEPHONE CORPORATION	0162535455025-052026		5/8/2026	92.21	TELEPHONE 340-777-8951 (MAY 2026) BOC/STT
2704750	28400	WARNER, LINFORD	UA-26-116		5/12/2026	800.00	UNIFORM ALLOWANCE FY'2026-BOC STX
2704740	60402	WENDELL A. CLAXTON	UA-26-121		5/12/2026	300.00	UNIFORM ALLOWANCE FY'2026-BOC STX
2704744	62136	WHEELER, ANTHONY	UA-26-124		5/12/2026	300.00	UNIFORM ALLOWANCE FY'2026-BOC STX
2704310	55375	XEROX CORPORATION	025479505		4/24/2026	594.64	BASE CHARGE (SER#EHQ-361728) BOC/STX
2704311	55375	XEROX CORPORATION	025324858		4/24/2026	217.43	BASE CHARGE (SER#UQA-196919) BOC/STX
2704312	55375	XEROX CORPORATION	025324859		4/24/2026	227.95	BASE CHARGE (SER#UQA-197062) BOC/STX
2704314	55375	XEROX CORPORATION	025324866		4/24/2026	719.48	BASE CHARGE (SER#ZRC-726153) BOC/STT
2704315	55375	XEROX CORPORATION	025427925		4/24/2026	796.37	BASE CHARGE (SER#ZRC-726227) BOC/STT
2704316	55375	XEROX CORPORATION	025324855		4/24/2026	858.98	BASE CHARGE (SER#ZRC-726233) BOC/STT
2704317	55375	XEROX CORPORATION	025324864		4/24/2026	773.15	BASE CHARGE (SER#ZRC-740896) BOC/STX
2704318	55375	XEROX CORPORATION	025324861		4/24/2026	769.28	BASE CHARGE (SER#ZRC-742538) BOC/STX
2704320	55375	XEROX CORPORATION	025324863		4/24/2026	965.78	BASE CHARGE (SER#ZRC-742571) BOC/STX
2704321	55375	XEROX CORPORATION	025324862		4/24/2026	957.04	BASE CHARGE (SER#ZRC-742575) BOC/STX
2704323	55375	XEROX CORPORATION	025324857		4/24/2026	750.99	BASE CHARGE (SER#ZRC-742722) BOC/STX
2704324	55375	XEROX CORPORATION	025324860		4/24/2026	732.15	BASE CHARGE (SER#ZRC-742737) BOC/STX
			Total (86 O/S)			\$ 957,919.46	

Outstanding Review and Processing Stage

VENDOR	AMOUNT	STATUS
KAC357, INC.	\$ 8,251.70	Justification Letter Pending
P&P MOTOR POOL	\$ 10,000.00	Verification of service/audit
CORE CIVIC	\$ 1,279,817.07	Vendor Number was on "STOP"
VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS	\$ 314,385.02	Late submission of invoices
LIVEVIEW TECHNOLOGIES	\$ 12,450.00	Vendor Number was on "STOP"
LABORATORY CORPORATION	\$ 8,552.14	Justification Letter Pending
SRMC	\$ 326,094.93	Verification of service/audit
JUAN F. LUIS HOSPITAL	\$ 900,000.00	Verification of service/audit
ST. CROIX GASTROENTEROLOGY CENTER	\$ 11,505.00	Verification of service/audit
MERCHANT MARKET ST. CROIX	\$ 18,259.09	Justification Letter Pending
ST. THOMAS RADIOLOGY ASSOCIATES	\$ 1,187.20	Justification Letter Approval Pending
TOTAL	\$ 2,890,502.15	

Virgin Islands Bureau of Corrections (BOC) Accomplishments (2019–Present)

Virgin Islands Bureau of Corrections has executed a sustained, system-wide transformation across correctional operations in the U.S. Virgin Islands. From 2019 through 2024, the Bureau advanced reforms in infrastructure modernization, security systems, healthcare and behavioral health services, workforce development, re-entry programming, technology integration, and federal compliance efforts, resulting in a more resilient and rehabilitation-focused correctional system.

Key facilities include John A. Bell Adult Correctional Facility, Alexander A. Farrelly Criminal Justice Complex, and Alva A. Swann Correctional Annex.

I. TRANSFORMATION OVERVIEW (2019–2024)

BOC reforms were guided by six strategic priorities:

- Infrastructure modernization & FEMA-driven capital recovery
- Public safety, security systems & operational resilience
- Re-entry, rehabilitation & recidivism reduction
- Healthcare, mental health & crisis response systems
- Workforce development & organizational professionalization
- Technology modernization & data-driven operations
- Compliance with federal consent decrees & accountability systems

II. SYSTEM-WIDE ACCOMPLISHMENTS BY FUNCTIONAL AREA

1. Infrastructure Modernization & Capital Improvements

- Secured and executed FEMA-supported recovery projects for storm damage and systemic deterioration.
- Rebuilt and upgraded major correctional infrastructure including:
 - Roof replacements and mold remediation (Golden Grove and John A. Bell)

- Facility-wide HVAC restoration, including St. Thomas Jail air conditioning replacement
- Installation of 900-kilowatt backup generators (John A. Bell and St. Thomas Jail)
- Industrial kitchen and dining hall renovations (John A. Bell and John Bell/Golden Grove facilities)
- Expanded capacity through:
 - 60-bed modular housing unit (St. Croix system expansion planning)
 - Long-term detention facility planning and annex reconstruction efforts (Alva A. Swann Annex)
- Upgraded critical infrastructure:
 - Perimeter fencing reconstruction
 - Solar-powered lighting systems
 - Secure evidence storage facility
 - Industrial laundry systems
 - Fuel storage and hurricane hardening measures

2. Security Enhancements & Technology Integration

- Installed comprehensive CCTV systems (including 100-camera system at St. Thomas Jail).
- Deployed x-ray scanners, metal detectors, and contraband interdiction tools.
- Expanded K-9 program with narcotics and electronic detection capabilities.
- Implemented:
 - Electronic key control (Key Watcher system)
 - Live View remote surveillance cameras
 - Central control room modernization with high-definition monitoring
- Launched digital correctional services:
 - Video visitation (fully implemented system-wide)
 - Electronic messaging and inmate financial transactions
 - Virtual court hearings and parole proceedings
 - Inmate tablet learning platform (education, legal research, vocational training)
- Prepared implementation of body-worn camera pilot program for correctional officers.

3. Re-entry, Rehabilitation & Reduced Recidivism

- Developed and fully implemented a comprehensive re-entry system beginning at intake.
- Established individualized case management and service planning across incarceration lifecycle.
- Expanded vocational training into 16+ program areas, including:
 - Construction trades (NCCER-certified)
 - Agriculture, aquaculture, horticulture
 - Culinary arts and hospitality
 - Automotive repair and welding
 - Electrical, carpentry, upholstery, and landscaping
- Implemented structured programming:
 - Parenting education programs
 - Substance abuse treatment

- Cognitive behavioral therapy (anger management, conflict resolution)
- Art therapy and trauma recovery programming
- Established transitional housing support via the Transforming Lives Foundation.
- Achieved a recidivism rate of 11% (2021 cohort), significantly below national averages.

4. Workforce Development & Staff Professionalization

- Implemented first-ever Behavioral Health Certification Program for correctional staff.
- Expanded Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) across correctional workforce.
- Conducted firearms training (first in several years at launch period).
- Expanded leadership and supervisory training pipelines, including:
 - National Jail Leadership Command Academy participation
 - Promotional examinations for supervisory roles
- Achieved FY2024 92.5% staff training compliance rate.
- Established employee wellness initiatives:
 - Psychological counseling access
 - Stress management and resilience programs
 - Organizational culture and engagement initiatives
- Standardized uniforms for both correctional and civilian staff.

5. Healthcare, Mental Health & Public Health Response

- Maintained CDC-authorized COVID-19 vaccination program (Pfizer and Moderna).
- Achieved sustained infection control success:
 - COVID-free operations at John A. Bell during pandemic periods
 - Contained outbreak at St. Thomas Jail with no fatalities or hospitalizations
- Expanded healthcare systems:
 - Telemedicine and telepsychiatry integration
 - Electronic medical records implementation
 - On-site dental care expansion
- Developed dedicated mental health infrastructure:
 - Mental health housing units (John A. Bell and CJC)
 - Day treatment and crisis intervention services
 - Psychiatric staffing expansion and coordinated care models
- Invested heavily in medical operations (\$770,000+ annual care + supplies investments).

6. Education, Vocational Training & Academic Advancement

- Expanded Transforming Lives Academy (UVI CELL and Penn Foster partnership).
- Maintained NCCER accreditation as a certified training provider.
- Increased inmate participation in:
 - High school diploma completion
 - GED programs
 - College-level coursework
 - Vocational certifications
- Introduced:
 - Inmate tablet-based learning system (federal grant funded ~\$499,500)
 - VR-based vocational training (2024 expansion)

- Graduations across multiple cohorts in:
 - Construction safety certifications
 - Automotive repair, medical billing, accounting, and coding programs

7. Agriculture, Industry & Work Programs

- Expanded inmate work programs in:
 - Public works and Department of Public Works collaborations
 - Agriculture and horticulture production
 - Facility maintenance and sanitation services
- Launched structured agriculture program with Cooperative Extension Services.
- Developed equine-assisted therapy and vocational training program.
- Engaged inmates in structured employment preparation activities supporting reintegration.

8. Compliance, Governance & Strategic Planning

- Demonstrated sustained progress toward federal consent decree compliance.
- Developed and implemented first-ever five-year strategic plan (Strategic Plan 2025: Transforming Lives for a Safer Virgin Islands).
- Introduced KPI-driven performance management across:
 - Security operations
 - Staffing and training
 - Maintenance and infrastructure
 - Re-entry and programming outcomes
 - Mental health service delivery
- Strengthened parole operations through virtual hearings and improved review processes.
- Improved procurement, vendor management, and operational efficiency systems.

9. Community Engagement & Partnerships

- Expanded partnerships with:
 - Schools and youth intervention programs
 - Faith-based organizations
 - Healthcare and behavioral health providers
 - Workforce development agencies
- Increased outreach targeting at-risk youth and recidivism prevention.
- Strengthened family engagement through visitation modernization and programming.

III. KEY OUTCOMES (2019–2024 IMPACT SUMMARY)

- Major modernization of all correctional facilities across the Virgin Islands system
- Full implementation of digital correctional infrastructure (telehealth, tablets, CMMS, virtual courts)
- Expansion of rehabilitation programming from limited offerings to 16+ structured vocational pathways
- Significant strengthening of mental health and behavioral health systems
- Improved workforce capacity, training compliance, and leadership development systems

- Demonstrated reduction in recidivism (11% cohort outcome)
- Expanded compliance alignment with federal correctional standards and reform mandates

IV. OVERALL IMPACT STATEMENT

From 2019–Present, the Virgin Islands Bureau of Corrections transitioned into a modern, rehabilitative, technology-enabled correctional system focused on improving public safety, reducing recidivism, strengthening infrastructure resilience, and building a professionalized workforce.

The Bureau’s reforms represent a shift from custodial correctional operations toward a data-driven, rehabilitation-centered justice system aligned with national best practices and long-term community safety goals.