

5180 Dronningens Gade, Ste. 201 P.O. Box 324 St. Thomas, VI 00804-0324 PHONE: 340-776-0100 E-MAIL: chamber.vi@gmail.com WEB: sttstjchamber.com

March 11, 2025

HONORABLE NOVELLE E. FRANCIS, JR. Senator/Chairman, Committee on Finance 36<sup>th</sup> Legislature of the United States Virgin Islands Capitol Building, Charlotte Amalie St. Thomas, Virgin Islands 00802

Via Email – nfrancis@legvi.org

## **RE:** LEASE FOR THE HAMBURG AMERICAN BUILDING BY ALPINE SECURITIES

Dear Senator Francis:

The St. Thomas-St. John Chamber of Commerce supports Alpine Securities in favor of a lease for the old Hamburg American Building, known as the Old District Court Building in Downtown Charlotte Amalie.

This building has been derelict for decades due to the condition of the existing structural concrete. The structural report and testing by independent contractors have determined that the integrity of the concrete cannot be restored and will eventually fail, even with remedial measures. As such, it is the intention of Alpine Securities to demolish the building and rebuild a state-of-the-art museum in its place. While the interior of this new facility will be completely modern, elements of the historical vernacular will be restored as a part of it. The construction of this new art museum will be a welcome addition to the Historic District and expand cultural offerings to our visitors and residents alike.

Thank You! Yours Sincerely,

Woods

John P. Woods, AIA, NCARB President

Cc: Jason Charles, Alpine Securities / Jason.charles101@gmail.com

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