



# Legislature of the Virgin Islands

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**CHAIRPERSON**  
Committee on Budget, Appropriations  
and Finance

**VICE CHAIRPERSON**  
Committee on Education  
and Workforce Development

**MEMBER**  
Committee on Economic Development  
& Agriculture

Committee on Health, Hospitals and  
Human Services

*The Honorable*

***Donna A. Frett-Gregory***

Liaison to Congress

## COMMITTEE ON BUDGET, APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCE

The 35<sup>th</sup> Legislature’s Committee on Budget, Appropriations and Finance scheduled for January 16, 2024 has been rescheduled for Friday, January 19, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. in the Earle B. Ottley Legislative Hall on St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands.

### OFFICIAL AGENDA – **REVISED I**

#### **BLOCK I - LEASES**

**Bill No. 35-0211** — An Act approving the Lease Agreement between the Government of the Virgin Islands, acting through its Commissioner of the Department of Property and Procurement, and James O. Gaston for Plot No. 9-G VICORP Lands, Prince Quarter, St. Croix, Virgin Islands, consisting of approximately 653, 400 U.S. sq. ft. or 15U.S. acres of unimproved land, more or less, as shown on Drawing No. A9-5-C-008 to be used for crop production and rearing small livestock.

#### ***Invited Testifiers:***

*Ms. Lisa Alejandro*  
*Commissioner*  
*Department of Property and Procurement*

*James O. Gaston*  
*Owner/Lessee*

**Bill No. 35-0225** — An Act approving the multi-year lease agreement between the Government of the Virgin Islands, acting through its Commissioner of the Department of Property and Procurement, and Virgin Islands Centre for Architecture, Crafts and Built Heritage, St. Croix, Inc. d/b/a Virgin Islands Architecture Center for Built Heritage and Crafts, for Plot No. 8 Church Street and Plots No. 21, 22, and 23 Hospital Street, Christiansted Town, Company Quarter, St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands, consisting of two, two-story masonry buildings to be used for the common good, welfare, and education of the people of the Virgin Islands on heritage and cultural legacy, and for other related purposes.

#### ***Invited Testifiers:***

*Ms. Lisa Alejandro*  
*Commissioner*  
*Department of Property and Procurement*

*Ms. Mary O’Reilly Dema*  
*President/Lessee*  
*V.I. Architecture Center for Built Heritage & Crafts*

#### **BLOCK II – FINANCIAL UPDATE**

The Committee on Budget, Appropriations, and Finance will receive testimony from the Government’s Financial Team on the financial overview of the Government of the Virgin Islands to include the following:

- FY 2023 Unaudited Revenue Collections to include breakdown of revenue collections.
- FY 2023 Budget Appropriations vs Total Allotment.
- Outstanding programmatic federal drawdowns for FY 2023 and prior.
- Status of FY 2024 allotments.
- Update on FY 2024 revenues as of December 31, 2023.
- Update on the Tourism Advertising Revolving Fund as of September 30, 2023.
- Breakdown of the use of the ARPA funds and the proposed use for remainder of the ARPA funds.
- Accounting of the interest earned to date on the funds invested in JP Morgan Bank and use of the invested funds.
- Status of the last line of credit approved in FY 2023.
- Status of retroactive payment to government employees and retirees pursuant to Act No. 8770.

*Invited Testifiers:*

*Ms. Jenifer O'Neal  
Director  
Office of Management and Budget*

*Mr. Kevin McCurdy  
Commissioner Designee  
Department of Finance*

*Mr. Joel Lee  
Director  
V.I. Bureau of Internal Revenue*

*Mr. Ira R. Mills  
Tax Assessor  
Office of the Lieutenant Governor*

*Mr. Brent Leerdam  
Tax Collector  
Office of the Lieutenant Governor*

*Ms. Cindy Richardson  
Director  
Division of Personnel*

*Ms. Joss Springette, Esq.  
Chief Negotiator  
Office of Collective Bargaining*

cc: Legislative Staff  
Media