

# Legislature of the Virgin Islands

P.O. BOX 1690  
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(340) 712-2278



The Honorable  
**Angel Bolques, Jr.**  
**Senator-At-Large**  
35<sup>th</sup> Legislature of the Virgin Islands

**CHAIRMAN**  
Committee on Culture, Youth, Aging, Sports, & Parks

**VICE-CHAIRMAN**  
Committee on Economic Development & Agriculture

**MEMBER**  
Committee on Rules & Judiciary  
Committee on Homeland Security, Justice & Public Safety  
Committee on Housing, Transportation, & Telecommunication

February 1, 2023

Franelle Gerard  
Executive Director  
Crucian Heritage & Nature Tourism  
217 Custom House St. Fredriksted  
St. Croix, VI 00840

Email: [fgerard@chantvi.org](mailto:fgerard@chantvi.org)

Dear Director Gerard,

As the Chairman of the Committee on Culture, Youth, Aging, Sports, and Parks, my office and my colleagues will host our first Committee Hearing on February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023, on St. Croix, focused on getting updates on the status of all projects surrounding the 175<sup>th</sup> Emancipation Commemoration to take place later this year. As one of our territory's tradition bearers, the Legislature would benefit from having you provide testimony for our committee hearing. Please be sure to give testimony concerning your role in the 175<sup>th</sup> Emancipation Commemoration. Please let us know by February 3<sup>rd</sup> whether you can participate in the Hearing either in person or virtually. Participating requires providing written testimony by February 10<sup>th</sup>, reading the testimony into the record, and being prepared to answer questions from the members of the 35<sup>th</sup> Legislature both in our committee as well as non-Committee members.

Please note that our agenda and motive is to provide the public with updates regarding the progress of projects/events associated with the 175<sup>th</sup> Emancipation Commemoration and to identify any opportunities where the Legislature may be able to assist stakeholders in addressing challenges or setbacks. As Chair of the Committee, I want to partner with you to ensure that the proper resources and collaborations are in place and benchmarks and timelines are being met to facilitate a magnificent celebration that we all want to see come to fruition. This is our history and culture we should be empowered to revel in its glory.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Angel L. Bolques Jr.".

Angel Bolques, Jr.  
Senator-At-Large  
35<sup>th</sup> Legislature of the Virgin Islands