

Legislature of the Virgin Islands



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The Honorable
Angel Bolques, Jr.
Senator-At-Large
35th 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
Subcommittee on Energy & Infrastructure Development

MEMORANDUM

TO: Members of the Committee on Culture, Youth, Aging, Sports, and Parks

The Honorable Marvin A. Blyden, Vice Chair
The Honorable Samuel Carrion
The Honorable Alma Francis Heyliger
The Honorable Novelle E. Francis, Jr.
The Honorable Franklin D. Johnson
The Honorable Milton E. Potter

FROM: Angel L. Bolques, Jr. _____
Chairman, Committee on Culture, Youth, Aging, Sports, and Parks

DATE: June 13, 2023

RE: AGENDA | Committee on Culture, Youth, Aging, Sports, and Parks
Hearing—Friday, June 23, 2023, at 10:00 AM

The Committee on Culture, Youth, Aging, Sports, and Parks has scheduled a hearing for **Friday, June 23, 2023, 10:00 AM** at the **Cleone H. Creque Legislative Annex on St. John** to receive testimony and updates regarding youth programs and initiatives from Department of Human Services, Department of Labor, Virgin Islands Police Department, Department of Justice, Virgin Islands Fire & Emergency Medical Services, as well as being introduced to key stakeholders who are promoting and facilitating aviation careers to our youth. The committee will also consider **Bill No. 35-0078 – a bill to require the Commissioner of the Department of Tourism to conduct a territory wide survey of the residents of the Virgin Islands to assist in the establishment of an official dish and dessert of the Virgin Islands.**

BLOCK I: **10:00 AM – 11:30 AM**

Bill No. 35-0078 – a bill to require the Commissioner of the Department of Tourism to conduct a territory wide survey of the residents of the Virgin Islands to assist in the establishment of an official dish and dessert of the Virgin Islands to be presented to the committee for consideration. Proposed by Senator-At-Large Angel Bolques, Jr.

Invited Testifier:
The Honorable Joseph Boschulte
Commissioner, Virgin Islands Department of Tourism

Sandra Gerard-Leung
Ambassadorial Chef

Digby Stridiron
Ambassadorial Chef

Julius Jackson
Ambassadorial Chef

Taj Siwatu
Ambassadorial Chef

BLOCK II: **11:30AM-1:00PM**

Testimony and information regarding programs and initiatives that introduce young people to the aviation industry, and particularly, to consider a career path as a private or commercial pilot. Update on the Coral Wings program through UVI CELL that was established with the FAA Grant award in April of 2023. To receive stakeholder analysis of the pathways, obstacles, opportunities, deficiencies, and needs of their respective organizations, programs, and initiatives.

Invited Testifiers:

Makeda Dawson
Founder, Love City Flight Club

Dior Parsons
Founder, Society 340

Justin Bartosh
Pilot and Instructor, UflyUVI & Standard Aviation

Suzanne Darrow-Magras
Director, UVI CELL

BLOCK III: **1:00PM-4:00PM**

Testimony and updates on the status of youth programs and youth initiatives from Department of Human Services' Youth and Aging Services & Programs such as your Intervention & Prevention Services, Head start Programs, Youth Rehabilitation Centers (in collaboration with DOJ), Foster Care, Senior Living Centers, and Senior Recreation Centers. Also, the Department of Labor's Summer Youth Work Experience Program (SYWEP), Labor Investing For Tomorrow (LIFT) Internship Program, the Career Exploration Program, Jobs for America Graduates (JAG), and the Senior Community Services Employment Program (SCSEP) and any other services or programs that the department offers for the youth and aging (elderly) population.

Invited Testifiers:

The Honorable Kimberly Causey-Gomez

Commissioner, Virgin Islands Department of Human Services

The Honorable Gary Malloy

Commissioner, Virgin Islands Department of Labor