

Greetings to all  
My name is Samuel Ferdinand  
Better known as  
The mighty Pat  
People know me as a calypsonian.

But am very versatile with music 🎵 of all stiles in which I write my own songs.

People also underestimate me, sometimes even look down on me until they feel my Rath in songs.

But I must say carnival and festival are gone to the dogs, I remember when people use to look forward to going to these events, now it's just a stupe tooth all the way from home and back.

Remember when John Bell, Helen Joseph, and Farchette Romney and others use to run festival 🇧🇧 they made sure that the calypsonian sung every year in the festival village they will also bring in outside artists with the locals, but now all of that is done because carnival and festival 🇧🇧 now became a money laundering company.

Because the kind of ridiculous money they pay artists to come here and sing makes people wonder who drug lord money they are laundering, can't be the people's money that taxpayers pay into government God for bid.

Question, would these gangsters take they money and give it to them?

Question, how our government sit back and let these good for nothing strives on the backs of the government without penalties?

Question, how could the Senators who we put in office to represent us sit back and let them take advantage of the people they are elected to serve, at least one of the members of the 35<sup>th</sup> Legislature eyes are open thanks to Senator Franklin Johnson for his observation and readiness to

stop these gangsters from operating they ridiculous ponsie circuses who pay these out side artists hundreds of thousands of dollars and the locals pennies, I hope more of the senators will see them for what they are and put an end to these vagabonds.

Festival is in St. Croix and Carnival is on St. Thomas and should not be run by the same people. St Croix must have they own people to run festival and St Thomas must have they own people to run carnival, tourism is the worst thing that happened to these events get rid of them God bless the Virgin Islands.

In conclusion, I support Bill No. 35-0232 an act that will amend title 3 of Virgin Islands Code chapter 19, section 339a relating to the Division of Festivals by eliminating the assistant directors, increasing the number of directors from one to three, and requiring each director to submit a financial report to the Chairperson of the Committee on Budget, Appropriations and Finance of the Legislature of the Virgin Islands.

When the people who was there before tourism took over carnival and festival they were actually paying the calypsonian \$10k for 1<sup>st</sup> place, \$7k, for 2<sup>nd</sup> place, and \$5k, for 3<sup>rd</sup> place, and all other participants got \$1k, now that tourism took over carnival and festival they are paying \$7.5k, for 1<sup>st</sup> place, \$5k, for 2<sup>nd</sup> place, \$4k, for 3<sup>rd</sup> place and all other participants are paid \$400. I see tourism as a disgrace to carnival and should be removed from running our festival and carnival committees and send it back to the former entity that used to run it before.

I look forward to answering any questions that this body may have.

Samuel Ferdinand

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