



GOVERNMENT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS  
OF THE  
UNITED STATES

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**VIRGIN ISLANDS TAXICAB COMMISSION**

3274 Richmond, St. Croix, USVI 00820  
8201 Subbase Suite 1, St. Thomas, USVI 00802-5813

Tel: (340)773-1561 Ext. 4451  
Tel: (340) 693-4211 Fax: (340) 693-4212

Loretta Lloyd  
Chairperson of the Board

Elizabeth Hansen Watley  
Vice-Chairperson of the Board

Myrna S. George  
Secretary of the Board

Vernice M. Gumbs  
Executive Director

November 2, 2023

**VIA -EMAIL**

Honorable Albert Bryan, Jr.  
Governor  
Government House  
St. Thomas, VI 00802

**RE: PROMULGATION OF RULES & REGULATIONS**

Dear Honorable Governor Bryan:

As you may be aware, there have been and continues to be many reports in the media about the numerous challenges that are inhibiting the progress of the Taxicab Commission. Territorially, our taxi operators, both old and new, are only able to reference Rules and Regulations that were promulgated in 1997. In 2010, the board under the chairmanship of Mr. Ulric Pilgrim, reviewed, updated, delivered for legal sufficiency review to then Attorney General Vincent Frazer, and finally delivered to the office of then Governor John P. DeJongh, Jr. for promulgation. Many verbal and written requests have been addressed to the Office of the Governor requesting the promulgation of the then board approved Rules and Regulations so that the Agency can move forward with the long overdue update process. It is imperative that our industry operators are kept up to date on the laws and rules and regulations that govern the automobile for hire industry.

Hence, I have attached for your convenience, a copy of the 2010 updated version of the Rules and Regulations as was previously delivered to the Office of the Governor for promulgation and humbly request that these Rules and Regulations be promulgated as soon as possible. This will enable the Commission to immediately proceed with updating, review for legal sufficiency, and transmittal to the Office of the Governor what would be the most current edition of the Rules and Regulations governing the automobile for hire industry.

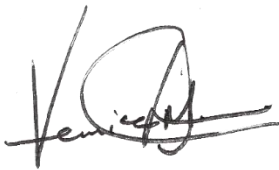
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The automobile for hire industry is a critical component of our tourism product. It is a continuously evolving industry for which we must remain focused. To that point, the Agency is feverishly moving forward in digitizing all the records of the taxi medallion owners and taxi operators. Once again, I must give credit to the then board of 2014 under the chairmanship of Mr. Ulric Pilgrim for committing to digitizing and bringing into the 21<sup>st</sup> century the processes at the Virgin Islands Taxicab Commission. Unfortunately, soon thereafter between the years of 2015 through 2022 things seemed to have fallen apart. There is no indication within the files here at the Virgin Islands Taxicab Commission in which any efforts were made to follow through on all pending matters.

Upon my employment, I was determined to address those pending matters and do what is needed to bring to fruition all pending matters which were all to the benefit of our industry operators. Obtaining the 2010 updated promulgated Rules and Regulations, and digitally transforming the processes of the Virgin Islands Taxicab Commission are of utmost importance. While there is no funding source identified for the digital transformation, that will not deter my focus from achieving this critical goal. No matter the circumstances, the Agency should be able to provide digital services to our industry operators. I am poised to raise the bar at the Virgin Islands Taxicab Commission and with your commitment on behalf of our industry operators territorially these critical goals shall be achieved.

If you have any questions, or if any additional information is needed, you may contact me at 340-690-4069. Thanking you in advance for your immediate attention to the afore-mentioned matters, I remain

Respectfully,



Vernice M. Gumbs  
Executive Director

cc: Ms. Colette Monroe, Senior Policy Advisor, Office of the Governor  
Mr. Richard Evangelista, Esq, Chief Legal Counsel, Office of the Governor  
Mr. Toya Malone, Policy Advisor, Office of the Governor – Boards and Commissions  
Ms. Loretta Lloyd, Chairperson, Virgin Islands Taxi Commission  
Ms. Myrna George, Board Secretary, Virgin Islands Taxi Commission

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