

RECOMMENDATION: ALOY NIELSEN

Good morning, Senator Carla Joseph and other distinguished members of the Committee on Government Operations, Veterans Affairs, and Consumer Protection. And good morning, as well, to the listening and viewing audience.

I am Robert L Moorehead, former Adjutant General of the VI National Guard from 1987 through 1990.

In 1995, I was asked by then governor Alexander Fairley to leave the Bureau of Corrections, to join his Public Works team as the Assistant Commissioner of Public Works with duty assignment

principally on the island St. Croix.

I was pleased to be able to work with the then commissioner Leo Francis on the Public Works Team in the USVI.

In addition to his numerous Highway related projects for the Virgin Islands, Mr. Nielson was the driving force behind several Federal Highway Administration projects for which he was duly honored by the Administrator of the Federal Highway Administration. (On somewhat of a personal note, let me point out that coincidentally my daughter Michele worked in the Federal Highway

programs office in Washington DC, which happened to be the office to which I sent Mr. Nelson's award recommendation package for Federal consideration upon his retirement from PDW. GUESS who ACTIONED the award package for first class review and consideration at the Federal Highway Office in Washington. His award recommendation from the Virgin Island was in fact FIRST reviewed by my daughter, Michel who worked at the Federal Highway Administration.) Needless to say, Mr. Nelson had no problem receiving special recognition from the Federal Highway Administration for the absolutely

brilliant work he was performing in the Department of Public Works, but most especially for his having spearheaded the C'STD BY PASS PROJECT in St Croix which has long been recognized as the biggest highway related project undertaken by the department of Public Works in the US VI. The project had its inception around 1970. However, its actual 5 year construction phase took place some time later, and was finally completed in CY - 2013, at a cost of some \$43 million dollars.

I realize that we're here to pay tribute to his leadership role on the C'STD BY PASS project. However, it would be a gross injustice if I didn't also at least mention

some of his numerous other projects in DPW. Naming but a few, there were the:

- * Widening to 4 lanes the Moravian Highway in St. Thomas, from Nisky Shopping Center to the Cyril King Airport.

- * The construction of the Melvin Evans Highway from West Airport Rd to Hannah's Rest Road in St Croix.

- * The timely Construction of the \$3.0 million Budhoe Park project in Fredericksted for the 150th Anniversary of the emancipation of slavery in the Territory.

* Construction of the downtown Christiansted Boardwalk.

* Significantly, he conducted a design competition among locally registered architects in the V. I. for the Millennium Monument at Point Udall -- the eastermost point of the United States. This project was so noteworthy that it resulted in an Article being published in the Architectural Record, and also being featured in the Federal Highway Quarterly Newsletter.

I could go on-and-on, about our esteemed brother Wenty Nelson. But my mother always reminded me that “ a

mouth-full is ENOUGH". So I think, I had better STOP here now that you have a little flavoring for what a "GIANT-of- a-MAN" we have in ALOY "Wenty" Nelson.

It was NOT just his technical skills that impressed me, however. ALOY was a joy to work with because of his amazing POSITIVE attitude. His can-do attitude and team-building skills were valued not just by me, but also by his peers who often relied on him to GET-THE -JOB done.

Accordingly, it is only fitting that we recognize Mr. Melson as the moving

force behind this AWESOME project, and
have his name

tied in PERPETUITY to the AWESOME
C'STD-By-Pass by having it renamed the
ALOY "WENTY" NELSON BY-PASS!