



GOVERNMENT OF  
THE UNITED STATES VIRGIN ISLANDS  
OFFICE OF VETERANS AFFAIRS



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Virgin Islands Office of Veterans Affairs Legislative Testimony

November 21, 2023

Honorable Carla J. Josph, - Chairman of the Committee on Government Operations, Veterans Affairs, and Consumer Protection, other Senators of the 35th Legislature of the Virgin Islands of the United States, all that are present, listening via radio, or viewing via the Legislature's LEGIT TV, pleasant good day to you. Additional greetings to my comrades in and out of uniform known to you as the Veterans of this beloved territory; Thank You once again for your service to country. Last but never least, to the staff of the Virgin Islands Office of Veterans Affairs to whom I refer to as the "Pillars" of this agency, Ms. Daniel, Mrs. Frederick, Mrs. Gordon, and Ms. Hewitt, thank you for your service to our territory's Veterans.

I am Patrick D. Farrell, your Director of the Virgin Islands Office of Veterans Affairs.

Today it is my pleasure to provide testimony on **Bill No. 35-0109** – an Act honoring and commending the late Corporal Kendall Emanuel George posthumously for his service as a Corporal in the United States Marine Corps in the Vietnam War and for making the ultimate sacrifice to preserve democracy and to keep America and his Virgin Islands homeland safe; naming Route 107 from Coral Bay to Lameshur Bay, St. John "Kendall Emanuel George Drive" South and appropriating \$10,000 to the Department of Public Works for signage at Kendall Emanuel George Drive; and for other related purposes.

I am present today to lend my unwavering support to the proposed legislation honoring the late Corporal Kendall Emanuel George. This esteemed Marine, who made the ultimate sacrifice during the Vietnam War, exemplified courage, dedication, and a profound commitment to preserving the ideals of democracy. As we contemplate this legislation, let us not only recognize Kendall Emanuel George's military service but also celebrate his enduring legacy as a symbol of courage and commitment. By approving this proposal, we affirm our collective gratitude for those who have given their all in service to our nation.

Corporal George's selfless service in the United States Marine Corps is a testament to his love for both America and his homeland, the Virgin Islands of the United States. As we consider naming Route #107 from Coral Bay to Lameshur Bay, St. John, the "Kendall Emanuel George Drive" South, we will be embarking on a significant tribute to a hero whose bravery echoes through the archives of history. It is a fitting and lasting tribute to a man who, in the face of adversity, stood

firm in defense of our democracy. We will not only be paying homage to a fallen Soldier, but we will also be reinforcing the values of sacrifice, patriotism, and unity that form the core of our society.

I extend my deepest gratitude to the family members of Corporal Kendall Emanuel George. Their unwavering support, resilience, and enduring love have been the foundation of Corporal George's legacy. As we honor him through this legislation, I find it fitting that we also acknowledge the sacrifices made by his family, who have borne the weight of his absence with grace and strength.

The appropriation of \$10,000 to the Department of Public Works for signage at the Kendall Emanuel George Drive is a small yet impactful investment in preserving the memory of a true Virgin Islands hero. These signs will serve as a daily reminder to all who traverse this route, prompting reflection on the sacrifices made to ensure the freedoms we hold dear. I humbly ask that each member of this institution lend their support to this legislation, ensuring that Corporal Kendall Emanuel George's name is forever etched into the landscape of our Virgin Islands.

Chairman Joseph, distinguished members of the Committee on Government Operations, Veterans Affairs, and Consumer Protection, other Senators of the 35th Legislature of the Virgin Islands of the United States, the Virgin Islands Office of Veterans Affairs respect the important work that you have done and continue to do to enhance the quality of life and well-being of our territory's Veterans and their families. With your help and continued support, we can ensure our Veterans and their needs continue to be adequately resourced and remain a priority. I will remain available for any questions relating to this matter.

Thank you for allowing me to have my testimony read into the record.