



# Legislature Of The Virgin Islands

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THE HONORABLE  
**Carla J. Joseph**  
LEGISLATIVE SECRETARY  
35TH LEGISLATURE OF  
THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

## CHAIR

Committee on Government Operations, Veterans Affairs,  
and Consumer Protection


*Liaison to the United States Department of Interior and  
Office of Insular Affairs*

## MEMBER

Committee of the Whole  
Committee on Rules and Judiciary  
Committee on Education and Workforce Development  
Committee on Disaster Recovery, Infrastructure, and Planning  
Committee on Housing, Transportation, and Telecommunications

### Memorandum: 23-033

**TO:** Mrs. Kurell A. Sheridan, JD  
Executive Director  
35<sup>th</sup> Legislature of the V.I.

**FROM:** The Honorable Carla J. Joseph   
Chair  
Committee on Government Operations, Veterans Affairs,  
and Consumer Protection

**DATE:** November 21, 2023

**SUBJECT:** Committee Report for Tuesday, November 21, 2023 Meeting

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Please find attached the report for the Committee on Government Operations, Veterans Affairs, and Consumer Protection (GOVACP) meeting held on Tuesday, November 21, 2023 in the Earle B. Ottley Legislative Hall, St. Thomas.

Cc: All Senators  
Chief Legal Counsel  
Archive Division  
Journal Division

**GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS, VETERANS AFFAIRS, AND CONSUMER  
PROTECTION  
NOVEMBER 21, 2023 COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT**

The Committee on Government Operations, Veterans Affairs, and Consumer Protection held its meeting on Tuesday, November 21, 2023, at the Earle B. Ottley Legislative Hall on St. Thomas. The Committee received and considered the following bills:

- Bill No. 35-0084– An Act amending title 11, Virgin Islands Code, chapter 21, section 1213 to allow businesses operating under a trade name to have the option of renewing the trade name every 2, 6, or 10 years intervals. This bill is sponsored by Senator Alma Francis Heyliger, and
- Bill No. 35-0123– 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. This bill is sponsored by Senator Dwayne M. DeGraff.

The meeting was called to order by the Committee Chair, Sen. Carla J. Joseph at 10:02 a.m.

**Committee Members Present**

Sen. Carla J. Joseph, Chair  
Sen. Javan E. James, Sr. Vice Chair  
Sen. Samuel Carrion  
Sen. Ray Fonseca  
Sen. Alma Francis Heyliger

**Committee Members Excused**

Sen. Kenneth L. Gittens  
Sen. Milton E. Potter

**Public Affairs/Media**

Mr. Omari Hicks  
Ms. Chaunte Herbert  
Mr. Kashief Hamilton  
Mr. Barry Leerdam  
Mr. Jamal Potter  
Mr. Bernard Matthew, Sr.  
Ms. Melissa Gustave  
Mr. Alwyn Baptiste, Jr.  
Mr. Eustace Browne

**Non-Committee Members Present**

Sen. Dwayne M. DeGraff

**Legislative Reporters**

Mrs. Nadine Coley-Williams

**Sergeant-At-Arms**

Mr. Delvin Fleming  
Mr. Alphonso Boyce

**Clerk/Timekeeper**

Ms. Deleka Callwood

**Supportive Staff**

Ms. Knysha Berkeley

**Office of the Executive Director**

Rev. Charles Brown, Jr.  
Ms. Myrna De-Altier-Pickard

**Legal Counsel**

Attorney Amos W. Carty, Jr., Chief Legal Counsel  
Attorney Sharline Rogers

In block one of the meeting, Bill No. 35-0084 was introduced by Sen. Alma Francis Heyliger. Ms. Denise Johannes, Director of Corporations and Trademarks testified on the bill. Senators proceeded with one (1) round of three (3) minutes each of questioning. Senator Francis Heyliger made a motion to move Amendment No. 35-524 to Bill No. 35-0084. The motion was seconded by Senator Fonseca. The motion was carried. Senator Francis Heyliger made a motion for Bill No. 35-0084 as amended to be approved and forwarded to the Rules and Judiciary Committee for further consideration. The motion was seconded by Senator Fonseca. Voting in favor were Senators Carrion, Fonseca, Francis Heyliger, James, Sr., and Joseph. The motion was carried.

In block two of the meeting, Bill No. 35-0109 was introduced by Sen. Dwayne M. DeGraff. Mr. Patrick Farrell, Director of the Virgin Islands Office of Veterans Affairs; Ms. Geneva Paris, Sibling; Mr. Henry Powell, Sibling; Mr. Alvis Christian, Sr., Cousin; Mr. Harry Daniel, Commander of the American Legion Post 131 testified in support of the measure. Ms Barbara Dalmida-Thompson, Cousin; and Honorable Derek Gabriel, Commissioner of the Department of Public Works testimonies in support of the measure were read into the record. Senators proceeded with one (1) round of three (3) minutes each of questioning. Senator Francis Heyliger made a motion for Bill No. 35-0109 to be approved and forwarded to the Rules and Judiciary Committee for further consideration. The motion was seconded by Senator Fonseca. Voting in favor were Senators Carrion, Fonseca, Francis Heyliger, James, Sr., and Joseph. The motion was carried.

**During the meeting, a request for additional information was made through the chair. The information is as follows:**

- Senator Carla J. Joseph asked the Director of Corporations and Trademarks the amount of funds the division has been able to generate for FY 2023.
- Senator Samuel Carrion asked the Director of Corporations and Trademarks for the amount of funds generated from penalties assessed from the last three years.

The Chair, Sen. Carla J. Joseph, adjourned the Committee on Government Operations, Veterans Affairs, and Consumer Protection meeting at 1:11 p.m.