

The Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on Operations, Veterans Affairs, and Consumer Protection

Dear Senators,

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for Bill No. 35-0239, which seeks to honor and commend Mrs. Claire Lorraine Brown Roker for her exceptional dedication and service to the Virgin Islands community by naming the visitors center at the Ann E. Abramson Marine Facility in St. Croix, the "Claire L. Roker Visitors Center."

I have had the pleasure of knowing Mrs. Roker for most of my life, and I can attest to her remarkable qualities as a mentor, friend, and confidant. She has been a guiding light in my life, especially during my days as a young single mother. Mrs. Roker's encouragement and support were instrumental in shaping not just my daughter but myself as well as many other young individuals in our community into productive and responsible citizens.

Our shared experiences in the Frederiksted Economic Development Association, where we worked tirelessly on a myriad of community events, including Harbor Night, the Blue Bay Jazz Festival, Sunset Jazz, the July Emancipation and Independence Day fireworks and concert and the Frederiksted Food Truck festivals have left me with countless memories filled with laughter and camaraderie. Mrs. Roker's ability to command attention and drive action is truly remarkable - whether you're a community leader, a senator, a commissioner, or even a governor, when Mrs. Roker speaks, you listen!

Her dedication and expertise were pivotal in the successful completion of projects like the Midre Cummings Children's Park, showcasing her unwavering commitment to improving our community for the children. In a time when integrity and good character seem to be in short supply, Mrs. Roker's impeccable reputation stands as a shining example of honor and selflessness.

I wholeheartedly believe that naming the visitors center after Mrs. Roker is a fitting tribute to her outstanding contributions and a source of pride for all Virgin Islanders. I cannot think of a more deserving individual to have her name associated with such a significant landmark in our community.

In conclusion, I urge you to support Bill No. 35-0239 and honor Mrs. Claire Lorraine Brown Roker for her exceptional service and dedication to the Virgin Islands community. Thank you for considering my input on this important matter.

With warm regards,

Melody Rames