



Legislature of the Virgin Islands

Office of Senator Kenneth L. Gittens

Capitol Building, Charlotte Amalie, VI 00804 • 3022 Golden Rock, Christiansted, VI 00820

Kenneth L. Gittens
Senate Majority Leader

COMMITTEES

Homeland Security,
Justice & Public
Safety
Chairperson

Health, Hospitals &
Human Services
Vice-Chair

Rules & Judiciary
Member

Disaster Recovery,
Infrastructure &
Planning
Member

Government
Operations, Veterans
Affairs, & Consumer
Protection
Member

Committee of the
Whole
Member

TO: Honorable Ray Fonseca, *Vice-Chair*
Honorable Angel L. Bolques, Jr.
Honorable Dwayne M. DeGraff
Honorable Alma Francis-Heyliger
Honorable Javan E. James, Sr.
Honorable Franklin D. Johnson

FROM: Senator Kenneth L. Gittens 
Chairman, Committee on Homeland Security, Justice and Public Safety

DATED: September 9, 2024

RE: COMMITTEE HEARING AGENDA **REVISED**
Scheduled Hearing - 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, September 10, 2024

Please be advised that the 35th Legislature’s Committee on Homeland Security, Justice, & Public Safety has scheduled a legislative committee hearing for **10:00 am, Tuesday, September 10, 2024, in the Earl B. Ottley Legislative Chambers on St. Thomas.** *This hearing was previously postponed due to the impact of Tropical Storm Ernesto.*

The agenda is as follows:

BLOCK I – 10:00 a.m.

Bill 35-0031 - An Act amending title 5, V.I.C., subtitle 3, part I, by adding a new chapter 301A, creating the Child Victims’ and Child Witnesses’ Rights Act and repealing chapter 301, subchapter IV, section 3510.
Sponsored by Senator Angel L. Bolques, Jr.

Department of Justice Operational Status Update: This update intends to provide a comprehensive overview of the current operational status of the Department of Justice. Key highlights will include but not be limited to an update on caseloads, encompassing criminal, civil matters and white-collar crimes and on the construction of the new morgue on St. Croix.

Comm. on Homeland Security, Justice & Public Safety
RE: Hearing Agenda – Tuesday, September 10, 2024

Invited Testifiers:

Testifiers	Title	Department/Agency
Honorable Averil George	Commissioner	Department of Human Services
Gordon Rhea, Esq	Attorney General Nominee	Department of Justice
Moletto A. Smith Jr.	Director	Law Enforcement Planning Comm.
Dr. Clema Lewis	Director	Women’s Coalition of St. Croix
Darian Torrice-Hairston	Director	Nana Baby Children’s Home

BLOCK II – 1:30 p.m.

Department of Public Works, Office of Highway Safety, and Traffic Investigation Bureau
Operational Status Update: This update intends to provide an overview of the current operational status of the Department of Public Works and the VIPD’s Office of Highway Safety and Traffic Investigation Bureau. The update will include, but not be limited to any ongoing projects, key initiatives aimed at enhancing roadway safety and infrastructure. Additionally, information on progress made in traffic investigations and plans for future improvements will be discussed.

Invited Testifiers:

Testifiers	Title	Department/Agency
Honorable Derek Gabriel	Commissioner	Department of Public Works
Mario Brooks	Acting Commissioner	VI Police Department

cc: All Employees
All Senators
Media