



JENNIFER JONES

LEGISLATIVE HEARING TESTIMONY
IN SUPPORT OF LEASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE
GOVERNMENT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS AND A9 TRUCKING
ENTERPRISES, INC. AND SARNELLI BRO (VI), INC. D/B/A VI
RECYCLING

(Bill No. 35-0018)

Testimony Given By

Jennifer Jones, Esq. and

Kevin Ruffler, Managing Partner, VI Recycling

Good Morning, Chairwoman of 35th Legislature's Committee on Budget, Appropriations and Finance, other committee members, non-committee members, legislative staff present, and members of the viewing and listening audience. I am Jennifer Jones, legal counsel for A-9 Trucking Enterprises, Inc. ("A9 Trucking") and Sarnelli Bro (VI), Inc. d/b/a VI Recycling. VI Recycling is the lessee of the proposed Lease Agreement between the Government of the Virgin Islands, acting through its Commissioner of the Department of Property and Procurement, and A-9 Trucking Enterprises, Inc. and Sarnelli Bro (VI), Inc. d/b/a VI Recycling for Parcel No. 1-19

Estate Bovoni, Nos. 1 and 2, Frenchman's Bay Quarter, St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands. With me today appearing remotely is Kevin Ruffler, President of Sarnelli Bro (VI), Inc. and Manager Partner of VI Recycling.

BACKGROUND

A9 Trucking and Sarnelli Bro VI formed VI Recycling as a fully licensed Virgin Islands partnership in 2004. VI Recycling provides recycling services for the Government of the Virgin Islands primarily in processing and recycling the territory's scrap metal. VI Recycling also performs demolition and dismantling as well as hazardous waste removal services for various Virgin Islands agencies and private entities. Since 2004, VI Recycling has processed and transported more than 250,000 metric tons of scrap metal out of the territory to its Shredder/Steel Mill in the mainland for final recycling into steel.

VI Recycling is proud of the significant impact it has made to the Virgin Islands, both in terms of providing a vital solution for waste disposal service and in helping the Territory to achieve two critical environmental goals, to reduce a significant waste product and protect the environment by allowing for recycling of scrap metal waste into steel. For a Territory with limited land space for waste disposal, these achievements are critical factors in advancing economic growth and contributing to the overall good health and welfare of this Territory. VI Recycling,

however, cannot continue providing these vital services without the certainty a long-term lease provides.

PURPOSE FOR LEASE AGREEMENT

The purpose of the Lease is to allow VI Recycling to continue to operate a processing facility on Parcel No. 1-19 Estate Bovoni to collect, process and sell scrap metals. Parcel No. 1-19 is located at the Bovoni Landfill and is sufficiently close to other waste disposal operations to make the location unique and necessary for VI Recycling operations.

ADVANTAGES TO PASSAGE OF THE BILL

This lease will ensure the sustainability of VI Recycling's operations and the performance of a critical function of the Government. As for the Lease terms, those are mutually beneficial to VI Recycling and the Government of the Virgin Islands. The Lease went through a long and thoughtful negotiation process. The standard provisions for all government contracts are contained in this contract as well. We now conclude our testimony but remain open to responding to any of your questions. Thank you for giving us this opportunity to present our testimony to you today.