

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### FirstBank Puerto Rico

**Senior Vice President  
Eastern Caribbean Region**

January 2019 to Present

- ☐ Responsible for all aspects of the British Virgin Islands Market, FirstBank Puerto Rico's only international operation, with over \$200 Million under management
- ☐ Responsible for all aspects of FirstBank Puerto Rico's Eastern Caribbean Regional Commercial Lending Operation (inclusive of the U.S. and British Virgin Islands), with over \$150 Million under management

**Senior Vice President, Commercial Business Manager  
Eastern Caribbean Region**

November 2014 to July 2017\*

- ☐ Responsible for all aspects of Commercial, Public Sector and Residential Mortgage Loan Portfolios
- ☐ Oversaw the Transactional Banking Unit, with responsibility for Electronic Banking Products, Alternative Delivery Channels and Merchant Services
- ☐ Oversaw the Platinum Banking Unit that provides dedicated service to select bank clientele

\* *Resigned effective July 2017 to become a Democratic Party candidate for Governor of the U.S. Virgin Islands. Engaged in private business consulting since the Democratic Party Primary Election of August 2018 until rejoining FirstBank Puerto Rico in January 2019.*

### Department of Finance, V.I. Government

**Commissioner**

4/2009 to 11/2014

- ☐ Administered and enforced the laws and regulations relating to all financial operations of the Government of the Virgin Islands ("GVI"), with general responsibility for: Providing a depository of all public funds; Processing all vendor payments and payroll for the GVI; Establishing and enforcing the standards of financial reporting for the GVI; and Preparing the GVI's Comprehensive Annual Finance Report
- ☐ Supervised seven divisions with offices located on St. Croix and St. Thomas, as follows: Accounting, Treasury, Payroll, Management Information Systems, Government Insurance Fund, Board of Tax Review, Financial Reporting
- ☐ Managed a General Fund departmental budget of \$8.5 Million and appropriated fund transfers of \$77 Million

Notable Accomplishments:

- ☐ Brought the GVI from being several years delinquent in issuing its Audited Financial Statements to being current
- ☐ Updated the GVI's Accounting and Financial Reporting Standard Operating Policies and Procedures
- ☐ Introduced ACH payments for V.I. Government vendors and the Tele Check System to reduce the volume of dishonored checks presented to the GVI
- ☐ Introduced the STATS Biometric Time and Attendance System and the ERP Payroll Module to streamline payroll processing and improve accuracy for more than 6,000 GVI employees
- ☐ Oversaw a \$2.5 Million renovation of the Department of Finance St. Thomas office complex

- [?] Pursuant to the Virgin Islands Revised Organic Act, served as **Acting Governor of the Virgin Islands** in the absence of the Governor and Lieutenant Governor
- [?] As Commissioner of Finance, served ex-officio in the following capacities:

- [?] **Chairman, Board of Tax Review** - Heard appeals of persons aggrieved by the Tax Assessor in relation to the valuation of their real property.

Notable Accomplishment: After more than a decade of litigation in the Federal Court System, was able to demonstrate to Chief District Court Judge Curtis V. Gomez that the Board of Tax Review was providing due process to taxpayers after changes implemented in the Office of the Board of Tax Review. In January 2011 the Court vacated its Decree, enjoining the GVI from issuing and collecting tax bills at rates other than those based on the 1998 assessments.

- [?] **Custodian, Government Insurance Fund** - Provided insurance coverage against liabilities for all Virgin Islands employers. An Uninsured Claims Fund to pay all uninsured employer expenses to injured employees was also maintained.

Notable Accomplishment: Developed a comprehensive rehabilitation plan to return the Government Insurance Fund to solvency

- [?] **Chairman, Virgin Islands Lottery Commission** - Promulgated rules and regulations governing the establishment and operation of the lottery; advised the Director regarding the operation and administration of the lottery

Notable Accomplishment: Working together with the lottery's Executive Director, returned the system to profitability and substantially resolved outstanding issues with an important partner that resulted in a significant tax payment to the GVI.

- [?] **Executive Director and Acting Director of Administration and Finance, Virgin Islands Public Finance Authority ("PFA")** - A public corporation and governmental instrumentality established for the purposes of aiding the Government of the United States Virgin Islands in the performance of its fiscal duties and effectively carrying out of its governmental responsibility of raising capital for essential public projects. The PFA maintains offices on St. Thomas and St. Croix.

Responsible for overseeing: The PFA owned and operated King's Alley Hotel and Frederiksted Mall; The Office of Economic Opportunity, which oversees all American Recovery and Reinvestment Act ("ARRA") federal grant awards; The PFA wholly-owned subsidiaries West Indian Company, Ltd. (Marine Terminal/Dock Operations and Commercial Real Estate Management) and viNGN (Wholesale Broadband/Telecommunications)

As Executive Director and Acting Director of Finance and Administration, oversaw the following financings/re-financing transactions totaling \$1.2 Billion:

- [?] Series 2009A Subordinated Revenue Bond Issuance (Virgin Islands Matching Fund Loan Note - Diageo Project). Used to make a loan to the Government of the Virgin Islands, which provided a grant to Diageo USVI, Inc. to finance the costs of the acquisition, design, development, construction and equipping of rum production and maturation warehouse facilities located on St. Croix. Issued at a principal value of \$250,000,000
- [?] Series 2009A-1 and A-2, Series 2009B, and Series 2009C Revenue and Refunding Bonds. Used to finance various capital projects, and refund the Series 1998A and Series 1998E Bonds. Issued at a principal value of \$458,840,000

- Series 2009A Subordinated Revenue Bond Issuance (Virgin Islands Matching Fund Loan Note - Cruzan Project). Used to make a loan to the Government of the Virgin Islands, which provided a grant to Cruzan VIRIL, Ltd. to finance the costs of the development, acquisition, construction and installation of a wastewater treatment facility and to fund certain preliminary costs of the alteration, upgrade, expansion and renovation of the Cruzan distillery. Issued at a principal value of \$39,190,000
- Series 2009 Gross Receipts Taxes Loan Notes (Subordinate Lien Revenue Bond Anticipation Notes). Used to provide Working Capital to finance and refinance certain operating expenses and other important financial obligations of the Government of the Virgin Islands. A principal amount of \$250,000,000 was borrowed
- Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Revenue Bond Anticipation Notes 2009. Used to provide interim financing of a portion of the Island Crossings shopping center development project. Provided for an initial borrowing in the principal amount of \$15,700,000
- Series 2010 A & B Working Capital Revenue Bond Issuance (Virgin Islands Matching Fund Loan Notes). Used to provide Working Capital to finance and/or refinance certain operating expenses and other important financial obligations of the Government of the Virgin Islands for Fiscal Year 2010 and to pay down a portion of the outstanding balance of the Series 2009 Gross Receipts Tax Loan Notes. Issued at a principal value of \$399,050,000
- Insurance Guaranty Fund Standby Letter of Credit Facility: \$45,000,000
- Series 2011 Property Tax Revenue Anticipation Note: \$13,000,000
- Gross Receipts Taxes Series 2011A Bond Anticipation Note and Series 2012 Term Loan. Used finance the viNGN/Broadband Project: \$\$32,235,000
- Series 2012A Matching Fund Revenue Bonds Issuance. Used to provide Working Capital to finance certain operating expenses and other obligations of the Government. Issued in the principal amount of \$142,640,000
- Series 2012A Gross Receipts Taxes Bond Issuance. Used to refund the outstanding Series 1999 Bonds and refund the Series 2010A Notes. Issued in the principal amount of \$197,065,000
- Series 2012B Gross Receipts Taxes Bond Issuance. Used to refinance the GRT Series 2012 Broadband Term Loan. Issued in the principal amount of \$31,740,000
- Series 2012C Gross Receipts Taxes Bond Issuance. Used to finance the costs of certain capital projects. Issued in the principal amount of \$35,115,000
- Series 2013A Gross Receipts Taxes Loan Notes. Used to provide for the replacement of police fleet vehicles: \$6,700,000

**Banco Popular de Puerto Rico**

***Vice President, Commercial Loans Manager– St. Thomas***

1/2000 to 4/2009

- Managed the bank's St. Thomas / St. John Commercial Loan Portfolio
- Approved loans within individual lending authority and sought appropriate approvals for loans in excess thereof
- Ensured that loans were underwritten within the bank's established Credit Policy
- Maintained commercial loan delinquencies within established goals by appropriate monitoring, being proactive and taking aggressive measures in conjunction with bank legal counsel, as necessary
- Marketed the bank's commercial credit products, related services and depository accounts at profitable pricing levels to ensure that growth and profitability targets are met

- ☐ Managed Work-Out loans to minimize charge-offs by taking rehabilitative measures when possible and promptly liquidating collateral security when necessary
- ☐ Administered the Commercial Loan Portfolio to ensure that appropriate annual reviews and renewals were conducted and that borrowers complied with insurance and real property tax requirements, and other loan covenants
- ☐ Ensured compliance with established corporate policies and procedures to detect and prevent money laundering activities

**Assistant Vice President**

4/1998 to 12/1999

- ☐ Assisted the Vice President of Commercial Loans – St. Thomas with carrying out the duties outlined above
- ☐ Capably managed a portfolio of commercial loans with varying sizes and complexities, concentrating on the larger transactions

**Commercial Relationship Officer**

7/1997 to 3/1998

- ☐ Capably managed a portfolio of commercial loans, with primary emphasis on small to medium sized borrowers and loans guaranteed by the U.S. Small Business Administration
- ☐ Was responsible for local implementation of the bank's Ideal Business Account Line of Credit Module

**Legislature of the U.S. Virgin Islands****Chief Research Analyst, Post Audit Division**

1/1997 to 6/1997

Managed unit responsible for researching and analyzing all items assigned to the Committee on Finance, including Legislative Bills and Governmental Agreements with a fiscal component.

**Chief Research & Policy Analyst,  
Office of Senator Judy M. Gomez**

5/1995 to 12/1996

Responsible for researching and analyzing all bills under consideration by the Legislature, with an emphasis on fiscal bills

**Department of Finance, V.I. Government****Assistant to the Commissioner**

4/1991 to 4/1995

- ☐ Provided general assistance and support to the Commissioner
- ☐ Served as liaison between the Department of Finance and the banking community
- ☐ Engaged in special departmental projects that required teamwork between various divisions and/or outside entities
- ☐ Represented the Commissioner in various ex officio capacities, including the Small Business Development Agency's Loan Policy Board
- ☐ Notable Accomplishments: Designed **Direct Payroll Deposit Program** for V.I. Government employees; Developed **Merchant Credit Card Program** for V.I. Government to accept VISA/MasterCard; Implemented federal **Cash Management Improvement Act** provisions; Facilitated introduction of **On-Line Banking System** to the Department of Finance; Established **American Express Corporate Card Program** for the V.I. Government



### Chase Manhattan Bank, N.A

#### **Assistant Treasurer / Credit and Marketing Officer**

9/1987 to 3/1991

- ? Managed a portfolio of small and medium-sized commercial borrowing and non-borrowing accounts
- ? Conducted marketing operations to enhance clients' relationships with the bank
- ? Assisted in creation of the Small Business Banking Group, which assumed management of all small business accounts in 1989 and served as its lending officer

### **EDUCATION AND TRAINING**

- 2002 **Eckerd College**, St. Petersburg, FL  
*Management Development Institute*  
- Completed Leadership Development Program
- 1986-1987 **Western Hemisphere Professional Development Center**  
*Chase Manhattan Bank, N.A. Hato Rey, P.R. and New York, NY*  
- Completed extensive Credit and Financial Analysis Training in this Master's level corporate program
- 1985 **University of Delaware**  
*National Student Exchange Program*  
- Advanced courses in Accounting and Economics
- 1982-1986 **College of the Virgin Islands**  
- B.A., Business Administration with a concentration in Finance, *Cum Laude*
- 1982 Graduated **Charlotte Amalie High School**, with honors

### **BOARD MEMBERSHIPS AND CIVIC AFFILIATIONS (PAST AND PRESENT)**

- ? Treasurer, Ocean and Coastal Observing Virgin Islands, Inc. ("OCOVI")
- ? Member, Endowment Board of V.I. Montessori School and Peter Gruber International Academy
- ? Co-Chair, Campaign for the University of the Virgin Islands ("UVI")
- ? Member, UVI Presidential Advisory Committee
- ? Member, Property Management Committee of the Moravian Church, V.I. Conference
- ? Member, St. Thomas Historical Trust
- ? Member, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity
- ? Co-Chair, Economic Regulation Task Force of the deJongh/Francis Gubernatorial Transition Team
- ? Past Member, UVI / Virgin Islands Small Business Development Center Advisory Board
- ? Past Member, Territorial Hospital Board
- ? Past Member, GERS Pension Reform Taskforce Advisory Committee
- ? Past Treasurer, Habitat for Humanity of the Virgin Islands
- ? Past Chairman, V.I. Government Health Insurance Board of Trustees / Government Employees Service Commission (Oversaw the V.I. Government's Group Health and Life Insurance Plans, including the selection of and transition to CIGNA)
- ? Past Chairman, Memorial Moravian Church Committee
- ? Past Member, V.I. Boy Scouts Council