## SHARNELLE SAMUEL MOLLOY, ESQ.

P.O. Box 8173, Christiansted, St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands 00823 (340) 244.8994 ~ sharnelle.samuel@gmx.com

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The Honorable Diane T. Capehart Chairwoman Committee on Rules and Judiciary 35th Legislature of the Virgin Islands 3022 Estate Golden Rock Christiansted, St. Croix VI 00820

## VIA EMAIL ONLY to senatorcapehart@legvi.org

Re: Nomination of Lisa M. Alejandro as Commissioner of the Department of Property and Procurement, Government of the United States Virgin Islands

Dear Madam Chairwoman:

It is an honor and a pleasure to express my support for Mrs. Lisa M. Alejandro's nomination as Commissioner for the Department of Property and Procurement ("DPP"), Government of the United States Virgin Islands ("GVI").

I have known Commissioner Nominee Alejandro for over 13 years. I first met her when I held the position of Legal Counsel at the Virgin Islands Department of Education ("VIDE"). At that time, I was the sole attorney serving VIDE and was engaged in developing and building the VIDE procurement office. In soliciting competent employees to fill key roles, we were thrilled to have Commissioner Nominee Alejandro join the VIDE team. Her skillset then was and still is incomparable and invaluable to the Territory of the Virgin Islands. She is a conscientious thinker, has a calm temperament, and works with an unmatched modest brilliance.

As the first hired contracts administrator at VIDE, Commissioner Nominee Alejandro, among other duties, drafted contractual agreements, management payment certifications, and provided guidance within the department on issues related to compliance, contract processing and approval, and grant funding requirements and special conditions. She required little guidance to execute a task, as she was always well-researched and when she presented an issue, she offered a resolution. She was one of the few employees who could be relied on and depended on to independently follow the laws, rules and regulations, and policies and procedures to carry out VIDE mandates. Impressively, Commissioner Nominee Alejandro made it her duty to keep updated and informed; applying the knowledge she gained to improve her work product. Because of this work ethic, she has proven invaluable to all entities privileged to work with her.

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Throughout Commissioner Nominee Alejandro's career, she has been dedicated to improving each agency she works with by developing and improving processes and bringing innovative ideas to the agency and by extension, the Territory. Whether it was at the Virgin Islands Port Authority ("VIPA"), where she almost singlehandedly developed and implemented the policies and procedures for the VIPA's procurement and contracting office to her leading DPP's integration of the Territory's first e-Procurement system and development of the Office of Procurement, Contract, Management, and Reporting ("OPCMR"). Commissioner Nominee Alejandro's expertise in procurement and contracting is incomparable and invaluable in that her many years of experience have propelled her to a position of immeasurable knowledge. While she has mastered this field, the DPP is statutorily responsible for the management of government property, the operation of printing services, and the control and management of the transportation fleet for executive branch agencies of the GVI. The administration and oversight of these services will be a seamless fit for Commissioner Nominee Alejandro. Her tenacity and openness to absorb and arm herself with information, to determine where shifts of improvement are needed, to find solutions, and to effectuate change where necessary are evident leadership skills.

Commissioner Nominee Alejandro embodies the qualities of a valued leader – one who is wise, resourceful, courageous, and committed. Her calm temperament allows her to communicate thoughtfully yet firmly. Most importantly, she demonstrates a high level of integrity, honesty, and intellect that is unmatched and critical to fill the role of the Commissioner of Property and Procurement.

Chairwoman Capehart, having thoroughly weighed my impression of Commissioner Nominee Alejandro's fitness for this role, I undeniably and sincerely support her nomination. I stand ready to provide any further information you or your committee members may require. Thank you for this opportunity.

Best regards.

Sharnelle Samuel Mollov