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Via email

Honorable Diane Capehart, Senator
Chair, Rules & Judiciary Committee
Legislature of United States Virgin Islands
United States Virgin Islands

RE: Letter in Support of Ariel M. Smith for Attorney General of the Virgin Islands

Dear Senator Capehart:

It is with both a sense of pride and pleasure that I write this letter in support of Attorney Ariel M. Smith for the position of Attorney General with the Virgin Islands Department of Justice.

Attorney Smith is both a friend and colleague. Before beginning employment with the Department of Justice, she worked for several years with me at Smock & Moorehead. I was her direct supervisor, and I can attest that all the work performed by her, both on the civil and criminal sides, was of the highest caliber. Just as importantly, in addition to her strong work ethic, she has always been a person of the highest ethical standards.

After Attorney Smith began her employment with the Department of Justice, she and I often interacted in cases where I was the Mediator. Again, it was clear from her presentations in those cases that she was well prepared and articulate in her advocacy of the Government's position on contested issues. It has always been a pleasure to deal with attorneys such as Attorney Smith who are intelligent and aggressive in support of their clients' positions but who also know how to evaluate legal issues to recommend the maximum benefit for them.

In conclusion, I recommend Attorney Smith highly and without reservation. Please feel free to contact me if you have questions or comments.

Respectfully,



Henry C. Smock, Esq.