



Office of the Governor
United States Virgin Islands

**QUESTIONNAIRE
FOR
GOVERNOR'S NOMINEE FOR
DEPARTMENTS, AGENCIES, BOARDS & COMMISSIONS**

PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY BEFORE YOU COMPLETE THIS QUESTIONNAIRE.

- 1) **ALL** questions must be fully and correctly answered and returned to the Office of Legal Counsel **within seven (7) business days of your receipt of the Questionnaire.**
- 2) Do not submit a resume instead of this Questionnaire.
- 3) If more than the allotted space on this form is required for a complete and full answer, please attach as many additional 8½ x 11 sheets as may be needed. At the top of each additional sheet put your name, "Office of the Governor, Office of Legal Counsel", and then reference the question number before each answer.
- 4) **The Questionnaire is in Word Format. Please complete all responses clearly in black font color. Responses are NOT to be hand written.**
- 5) Please do not hesitate to call the Office of Legal Counsel at Government House at (340) 774-0001 if you have any questions concerning this Questionnaire.

NOMINEE'S NAME:

10. EMPLOYMENT RECORD: Please list, in chronological order, your complete employment record for the past ten (10) years, beginning with the present or most recent position. [Attach additional sheet(s), if necessary, and reference this question number]

Employer	Dates of Employment	Position	Address/Phone #	Supervisor
St. Thomas/St. John Seventh-day Adventist School North Caribbean Conference	2019 - 2021	Physical Education and Health Teacher	4151 Annas Retreat, St. Thomas VI 00802 340-775-3525	Dr. Whitman Brown and Rene Hodge (Principals)
Government of the Virgin Islands	August 2015 - January 2019	Commissioner of Agriculture	RR 1 Box 10345 #1 Estate Lower Love Kingshill, VI 00850 Tel: (340) 778-0997	Hon. Kenneth E. Mapp, Governor
Univ. of the Virgin Islands Cooperative Extension Service	November 1981 - January 2015	District Supervisor (Last Position held)	2 John Brewers Bay, St. Thomas, VI 00802 340-693-1080	Kwame Garcia, State Director

11. GOVERNMENT EXPERIENCE:

A. List all federal, state, territorial or local government service, giving dates and type of service such as employee, boards, commissions, executive, legislative or judicial branches, consultant, voluntary service, part-time or honorary. [Attach additional sheet(s), if necessary, and reference this question number]

B. List and attach a copy of all service contracts you have held independently or been a party to with the Government of the Virgin Islands.

Succesful bidder for a Request for Proposal from the Economic Development Authority's
Enterprise Development Commission for Agronomist/Horticulturalist Assistance to Farmers

NOMINEE'S NAME:

12. BUSINESSES AND FINANCIAL INTEREST: List all businesses (for profit or not for profit), real estate and trusts in which you have at least a 10% interest or control of assets or serve as an officer or member of a board with voting rights. [Attach additional sheet(s), if necessary, and reference this question number]

Flora Horticultural Services LLC (Owner)
Harvest 340 Farm (Owner)

13. QUALIFICATIONS: What in your opinion qualifies you to serve the People of the Virgin Islands in the position, which the Governor has nominated you?

I have spent more than 28 years of my career providing information, education, and technical advice to the
in the area of agriculture and natural resource management to government agencies, private industries, home owners in general and the agriculture community specifically.
The last 4 years of my career was spent as Commissioner of Agriculture over seeing the operations and working to increase
Irma and Maria. This was the first time in Virgin Islands history that a sitting Secretary of Agriculture had visited the territory. T
and water resources on public and private land. Though retired from public service, I still am s
for information and advice in all areas of agriculture and natural resources in general and hort

SECTION II: HONORS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

14. MEMBERSHIPS: List all memberships and offices held in professional, fraternal, scholarly, civic, charitable, and other organizations.

International Society of Arboriculture, Wadada-I-Ya Fraternity
American Society of Consulting Arborist
Caribbean Food Crop Society Advisory Board
Seventh-Day Adventist Church

15. BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, TRUSTS, ETC.: List all government or private sector boards, trusts or fiduciary responsible positions on which you have served or are now serving.

Supervisory Committee - St. Thomas Federal Credit Union
VI Wastement Management Authority's Citizens Advisory Committee

16. HONORS AND AWARDS: List all scholarships, fellowships, honorary degrees, honor society memberships, and any other special recognition for outstanding service or achievement.

NOMINEE'S NAME:

June 2004 - Outstanding Professional Award. Caribbean Urban Community Conference
2014 Kittitians in Paradise Outstanding Community Service Award
October 2018 – Hawaii Global Breadfruit Collaboration Award

17. PUBLISHED WRITINGS: List all titles, publishers and dates of books, articles, reports, or other published materials you have written.

SECTION III: CHARACTER

18. Have you ever been the subject of a grand jury, police, and department of justice or any legally constituted government authority, investigation anywhere or at anytime?
 YES NO

If you answer is yes, please explain with details including date and location. [Attach additional sheet(s), if necessary, and reference this question number]

19. Have you ever been arrested in any geographical location for any offense, including traffic violations? YES NO

If yes, please explain with details including offense, date of location and disposition. [Attach additional sheet(s), if necessary, and reference this question number]

20. Have you ever been convicted of a felony or a misdemeanor? YES NO

NOMINEE'S NAME:

If yes, please explain with details including offense, date, location and current status. [Attach additional sheet(s), if necessary, and reference this question number]

21. Is there now or has there ever been a judgment entered against you? YES NO
If the answer is yes, please explain with details on date, location and disposition or current status. [Attach additional sheet(s), if necessary, and reference this question number]

22. Have you ever been a respondent in any labor dispute or discrimination proceeding?
 YES NO

If the answer is yes, please explain with details on date, location and disposition or current status. [Attach additional sheet(s), if necessary, and reference this question number]

23. Have you now or have you ever been a member of an organization or an associate of an individual advocating terrorism, overthrow of a government by force or the advocacy or subordination of any ethnic group or individuals? YES NO

If the answer is yes, please give details of dates, names of organizations, names of individuals and all pertinent circumstances. [Attach additional sheet(s), if necessary, and reference this question number]

NOMINEE'S NAME:

24. Do you know of any individual, organization or group, which can be expected to oppose your nomination? YES NO

If the answer is yes, please list the individuals, organizations or groups by name and give the details of your belief for their opposition. [Attach additional sheet(s), if necessary, and reference this question number]

25. Do you have any outstanding and delinquent monetary obligations to the Government of the Virgin Islands or any other public or private entity, including but not limited to, personal income taxes, business taxes, real property taxes (commercial or residential), business license renewals, trade name renewals, annual reporting fees, professional organization dues, child support, judgments, debt

Government of the Virgin Islands, includes but is not limited to the following departments, agencies and instrumentalities: the Bureau of Internal Revenue, Tax Assessor, Department of Justice Division of Paternity and Child Support, Board of Education, Economic Development Authority, U. S. Small Business Administration, Small Business Development Center, Police Department, Department of Licensing and Consumer Affairs, the Water and Power Authority, the Waste Management Authority, Department of Health, Department of Human Services

YES NO

If the answer is yes, please attach a detailed explanation of what outstanding and delinquent monetary obligations are owed, the reason for the delinquency, and the intended plan to bring the matter current.

SECTION IV: CONFLICT OF INTEREST

26. Please explain your understanding of "Conflict of Interest" as it applies to the position to which you have been nominated to serve the People of the Virgin Islands.

As it relates to this board, a conflict of interest means that if selected to sit on this board, I wd
that appear before the board applying for funding or providing goods and services.

NOMINEE'S NAME:

27. Do you own a business or real estate, or are you a partner or shareholder or affiliated in anyway to sell or provide goods or services to the Virgin Islands Government?

YES NO

If the answer is yes, please explain and give the name and location of these interest(s) and how you promise to remove yourself from any possible conflict. [Attach additional sheet(s), if necessary, and reference this question number]

My company, Flora Horticultural Services LLC. conducts information, education, and technic;
to the Virgin Islands community to include but not limited to the agriculture community, gover
that may come before the board for funding or for the procurement of good and services may
Example. I am the only Certified Arborist in the territory who is a member of the International
and the American Society for Consulting Arborist that is licensed and insured. If a project req

28. Does any close relative or spouse have a business or real estate interest(s) as described in question 25? YES NO

If the answer is yes, please explain and give the name and location of these interest(s) and how you propose to remove yourself from any possible conflict. (Attach additional sheet(s), if necessary.)

SECTION V: JOB PERFORMANCE

29. In no more than 150 words, please outline in priority order your four (4) specific short-term and four (4) specific long-term goals and objectives you would employ to achieve the entity's purpose and improve its service delivery system if your nomination is confirmed for this position.

NOMINEE'S NAME:

Short Term:
1. Convene meeting with DPNR CZM, Dept. of Agriculture, and Dept of Public Works to establish/re-establish working relationships.
2. Re-establish relationship with the US Geological Survey
3. Review to the existing VI Code as it pertaining to the Conservation District
4. Re-establish a working relationship with regional and national NACD offices
Long Term
1. Secure contractual relationship with US Geological Services for ground water monitoring
2. Secure funding for the establishment of large volume water storage structures

30. As you must know, the Virgin Islands Government does not have the monetary resources to continue business as usual. Do you have a fiscal plan in place to deal with less spending and a streamlined system to deliver services to the residents of this Territory? YES NO

If your answer is yes, please give a brief summary of your plan. If your answer is no, please explain how you intend to operate your department with less money and deliver the services to the residents as required. [Attach additional sheet(s), if necessary, and reference this question number]

31. What is your view and understanding of Equal Employment Opportunity and Sexual Harassment? [Attach additional sheet(s), if necessary, and reference this question number]

Equal Employment Opportunity is federal and local legislation that ensures that individuals of any religion, race, sex, or national origin have an equal, fair and unbiased opportunity to be employed and provided with wages and benefits equal to their peers. Sexual Harassment is unwanted, unwelcomed, unwarranted sexual advances, verbal or physical harassment made towards men and/or women in and out of the workplace.

32. Have you ever been named as a party in any hearing, administrative, civil, and criminal, including EEOC, civil rights or sexual harassment? YES NO

If yes, please explain in detail, giving date, venue, agency, and the names of the other parties and the disposition. [Attach additional sheet(s), if necessary, and reference this question number]

NOMINEE'S NAME:

33. Is there any additional information that you believe would assist the Committee on Rules and the Judiciary in processing your nomination expeditiously?

CERTIFICATION:

This is to certify and affirm that all the statements contained herein and in any supporting documents or schedules or other such supporting documents or schedules executed at a later date as a part or addendum to this document are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and are made in good faith.

Signed this 13 day of February 2023

Carlos Robles

Nominee's Name [Print Clearly]

Carlos A Robles

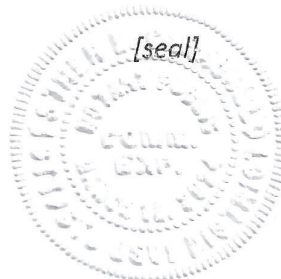
Signature of Nominee

Sworn and subscribed before me this 13th day of February, 2023

Esther E Caraballo

Notary Public of the U.S. Virgin Islands

My commission expires: 03/18/2024



**QUESTIONNAIRE FOR GOVERNOR'S NOMINEE FOR DEPARTMENTS, AGENCIES, BOARDS &
COMMISSIONS**

**Office of Legal Council
Nominee: Carlos Robles**

SECTION I: BIOGRAPHICAL DATA

Q13 I have spent more than 28 years of my career providing information, education, and technical advice to the in the area of agriculture and natural resource management to government agencies, private industries, home owners in general and the agriculture community specifically. The last 4 years of my career was spent as Commissioner of Agriculture overseeing the operations and working to increase the production capacity of Virgin Islands farmers. During that period, I worked with USDA to provide local and federal resources to local farmers affected by one of the worst droughts in VI history. I also invited and received the Secretary of Agriculture of the United States during the territories recovery from hurricanes Irma and Maria. This was the first time in Virgin Islands history that a sitting Secretary of Agriculture had visited the territory. This visit resulted in the VI being included in the Wildfire and Hurricane Indemnity Program (WHIP).VI farmers received over 2 million dollars in direct cash assistance. During the course of soliciting for federal hurricane assistance for the agriculture industry, I was contacted by representatives of the National Association of Conservation District (NACD) who, after several weeks of discussions, provided grant funding to VIDA for 2 positions that would serve as NACD representatives in the territory. These individual would also be responsible for working with VIDA to re- establish the Conservation District in the Virgin Islands. The Conservation District would have access to millions of dollars dedicated to responsible management of our natural resources and the protection of land and water resources on public and private property. Though retired from public service, I still am sought after for information and advice in all areas of agriculture and natural resources in general and horticulture in particular. I want to bring my years of accumulated knowledge and experience to this board as my contribution to ensuring that the next generation of Virgin Islanders and visiting guest, enjoy and appreciate the natural, cultivated, and built resources of my beloved Virgin Islands.

Section ii Honors and Accomplishments

Honors/Awards (relating to profession)

June 2004 - Outstanding Professional Award. Caribbean Urban Community Conference
October 2018 – Hawaii Global Breadfruit Collaboration Award

Professional Organizations, Memberships & Certifications:

Founding member of Wadada - I- Ya Fraternity Inc
International Society of Arboriculture

American Society of Consulting Arborist

Seventh-Day Adventist Church

Caribbean Food Crop Society

2014 – Present: Caribbean Food Crop Society Advisory Board

2015 – 2019 National Association of State Foresters

Sub Committee: Urban and Community Forestry

Southern Group of State Foresters

Sub Committee: Urban and Community Forestry

2015 – December 2018: National Association of State Department of Agriculture

2015 – December 2018: South Association of State Department of Agriculture

October 2015 – December 2018: Governor Kenneth E. Mapp's Climate Change Council

December 2016 – December 2018: Governor Kenneth E. Mapp's Task Force on Recycling

January 2015 – January 2019: President of the Board of Directors Agriculture and Food Fair of the Virgin Islands. Inc.

January of 2000 – Present: Vice-President of the St. Thomas/ St. John Agriculture and Food Fair Inc.

2015 – 2018: Board of Directors Future Farmers of America, Virgin Islands Chapter

2010 - Hosted a 16-part series out home gardening entitled Home Grown on WTJX Channel 12

Nominee: Carlos Robles

Certifications

2003 University of Maine Composting School Certificate of technical ability.

International Society of Arboriculture: Certified Arborist

American Society of Consulting Arborist

Certified Pesticide Applicator:

Publications

1. Robles, C.A. 1997. Performance of Direct Seeded and Transplanted Lettuce Grown on the Sandy Soils of Florida. Masters Thesis, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida.
2. Poster: Robles, C. M.C. Palada, and S.M.A. Crossman, 1998. On Farm Evaluation of Mulch Types for Sustainable Basil Production in the Virgin Islands. Joint Annual Conference Caribbean Food Crops Society (34th annual) and the Jamaican Society for Agricultural Sciences (9th annual).
3. "Growing Thyme In The Home Garden." Agrifest 2004, 33rd Annual Agriculture and Food Fair Of the U.S. Virgin Islands; pg. 24- 26, 2004.
4. "Mulching Your Garden Landscape." Agrifest 2003, 32nd Annual Agriculture and Food Fair of the U.S. Virgin Islands Bulletin; pg. 42, 2003.
5. "Growing Basil in the Virgin Islands." Agrifest 2002, 31st Annual Agriculture and Food Fair of the U.S. Virgin Islands Bulletin; pg. 30-31, 2002.
6. "Developing Sustainable Crop Management Systems for Herb Production in the Virgin Islands; The Proceedings 4th Non-Point Source Pollution Conference. 1996 pg. 28-31.
7. "Planning Your Vegetable Garden", St. Croix Avis, Sunday/Monday October 2&3, 1994.
8. "Organic Farming and Gardening: A Viable Alternative." Terracing in 84: Building Soils, Feeding Families. Fourth Annual St. Thomas/St. John Agriculture and Food Fair Bulletin; pg. 35-37, 1984.
9. "Guide to Safer Trees in the Landscape" 2014.

Nominee: Carlos Robles

Section IV. Conflict of Interest

Q. 26 As it relates to this board, a conflict of interest means that if selected to sit on this board, I would have to take actions and/or provide unbiased decisions, judgments, etc. related to my businesses, family members or close associates that appear before the board applying for funding or providing goods and services.

Q. 27

My company, Flora Horticultural Services LLC. conducts information, education, and technical advice to the Virgin Islands community to include but not limited to the agriculture community, government agencies and private industry. Some projects that may come before the board for funding or for the procurement of good and services, may include the name of my businesses.

In those instances where I can withdraw my business from consideration, I would do so. In other cases, I would remove myself from the decision making process, leaving it in the hands of the available board members.

Example. I am the only Certified Arborist in the territory who is a member of the International Society of Arboriculture and the American Society for Consulting Arborist that is licensed and insured. If a project requiring a certified arborist with those credentials comes before the board, I would recuse myself from the decision making process. My farm will also benefit from projects geared towards the management and improvement of production area soils.

Section V Job Performance

Short term Goals

1. Convene meeting with DPNR CZM, Dept. of Agriculture, and Dept. of Public Works to establish/re-establish working relationships.
2. Re-establish relationship with the US Geological Survey
3. Re-establish a working relationship with regional and national NACD offices
4. Review to the existing VI Code as it pertaining to the Conservation District

Long term Goals

1. Secure contractual relationship with US Geological Services for ground water monitoring
2. Secure funding for the establishment of large volume water storage structures
3. Establish an erosion control public education campaign for large land owners
4. Re- Establish a soil and water conservation unit in the VIDA