

# SmockLaw, P.C.

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Honorable Diane T. Capehart  
Senator  
35<sup>th</sup> Legislature of the Virgin Islands  
3022 Estate Golden Rock  
Christiansted, St. Croix, Virgin Islands 00820

Re: Gordon C. Rhea, Esq.

Dear Senator Capehart:

It is both my pleasure and honor to submit this letter in support of Gordon C. Rhea, Esquire, to serve as the Attorney General of the Virgin Islands Department of Justice.

I have known Attorney Rhea for over 30 years. I can attest to his excellent work both as an attorney, and as a person actively involved in our community. As an attorney, he is well-respected and always adheres to the highest ethical standards of the Virgin Islands Bar Association.

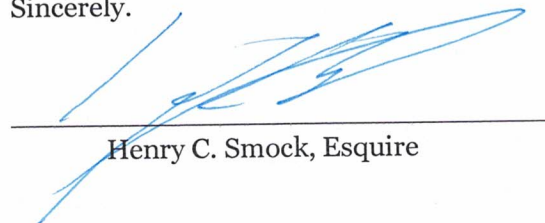
Over the years, Attorney Rhea has made a reputation for himself as one of the premier trial lawyers in the Virgin Islands. He has experience in both criminal and civil matters, many of which were high profile matters which have influenced the course of our Virgin Islands jurisprudence. His attention to detail and preparation are legendary.

Just as importantly, he is respected by all judges and attorneys who work with him. In this age of increasing acrimony among attorneys, Attorney Rhea is someone who makes his points forcefully and persuasively yet in a fashion that does not offend or belittle opposing counsel. He has also worked with large firms in the past which have undoubtedly given him experience in managing and inspiring others, a trait that should stand him well at the Department of Justice.

Attorney Rhea is also Renaissance Man, being an accomplished writer of many publications, primarily concerning the Civil War. His latest book (which I recommend to all) concerns Stephens A. Swails, a black freedom fighter during the Civil War and a politician during Reconstruction.

In conclusion, I can think of no person who is more qualified to serve as Attorney General of the Virgin Islands Department of Justice. I recommend him highly and without qualification. Please feel free to contact me if you require any further information.

Sincerely,



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Henry C. Smock, Esquire