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VIA EMAIL ONLY – curgent@legalvi.org

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

Re: Confirmation of the Appointment of Gordon Rhea to the position of
Attorney General of the United States Virgin Islands

Dear Senator Capehart,

It is my deepest privilege and honor to highly recommend the confirmation of the appointment of Attorney Gordon Rhea to the position of the Attorney General of the United States Virgin Islands. First and foremost, Attorney Rhea is extremely ethical, fair and professional. I have known him for approximately a quarter of a century and I have never seen him conduct himself in anything but the highest of professional standards.

He has both a depth and breadth of legal experience, spanning five decades. His legal acumen and talent is exceptional. He is intelligent and wise; and, shares his insights generously. He will be an excellent mentor and leader for the entire staff of the Department of Justice, but particularly for its attorneys. I am aware that former Assistant Attorney Generals who previously left the office have either already returned or are planning to return simply because Attorney Rhea's is currently the Acting Attorney General. This is particularly important at this time when the office is experiencing a shortage of prosecuting attorneys.

I have firsthand experience being involved in cases with Attorney Rhea and have seen him in the court room and behind the scenes in numerous cases, both criminal and civil, over the years. He has an ability to communicate exceptionally well with juries and judges hold him in high esteem. He is a zealous advocate, a critical thinker and a strategic actor. He is an extremely formidable foe in court. I know he will bring all his amazing qualifications and passion for justice to representing the people of the Virgin Islands.

His commitment to the betterment of the Virgin Islands is a decades' long endeavor. In 2023 he was awarded the highest honor bestowed on members of the Virgin Islands Bar Association – the Winston A. Hodge Award for Public Service. This award was created in honor of the late member Winston A. Hodge for his “community service, commitment and dedication to the bar and contributed to bar activities.” Recipients of the award are recognized for their similar long-term contributions and demonstration the ideals and commitment that Attorney Hodge stood for. Attorney Rhea’s receiving this award validates that it is not simply my opinion that he is an exceptional Virgin Islander, but that of the entire Bar Association.

I am very proud to call him my friend. I will be thrilled to call him Attorney General Rhea

Sincerely,



Pamela Lynn Colon, Esq.

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cc: Gordon Rhea – via email