

Legislature of the U.S. Virgin Islands

Marise C. James, Esq.

SENATOR
DISTRICT OF ST. CROIX



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Committee on Disaster Recovery, Infrastructure & Planning

Thursday, January 29, 2026

12:00 PM

Frits E. Lawaetz Legislative Conference Room
St. Croix, USVI

AGENDA

BLOCK I:

12:00PM—1:30PM

Bill No. 36-0206 *An act requiring the Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority to expand the potable water distribution system, perform necessary upgrades to the existing potable water distribution system, and install fire hydrants in Estate Smith Bay, St.*

Proposed by Senator Avery L. Lewis

Invited Testifiers:

Karl Knight, Executive Director and CEO, VI Water and Power Authority

Noel Hodge, Director of Water Distribution, Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority

Antonio Stevens, Director, Virgin Islands Fire and Emergency Medical Services

BLOCK II:

1:30PM — 5:00PM

The Committee will receive testimony from relevant stakeholders regarding: **“Heirs Property, Prolonged Probate, and Vacant & Abandoned Historic Properties in the U.S. Virgin Islands”** to examine the legal, administrative, and systemic barriers contributing to prolonged probate and unresolved heirs property, particularly where such delays result in vacant, abandoned, and deteriorating historic properties, and to identify coordinated solutions to return these properties to productive use.

Invited Testifiers:

Jessica C. Tully, Esq., Owner and Managing Attorney, Tully Law, PLLC

Karabo Molyneaux-Molloy, Esq., Owner and Managing Attorney, Karabo Molyneaux Molloy Law Firm, PLLC

Lance George, Director of Research and Information, Housing Assistance Council

Regina deChabert Petersen, Administrator of Courts, Superior Court of the Virgin Islands

Nadja Harrigan, Esq., Acting Chief of Staff/Legal Counsel, Office of the Lieutenant Governor

Sean L. Krigger, Director, State Historic Preservation Office, Department of Planning and Natural Resources

Honorable Lisa Alejandro, Commissioner, Department of Property and Procurement

CHAIR

Committee on Disaster Recovery,
Infrastructure and Planning

MEMBER

Committee on Budget,
Appropriations and Finance

Committee on Education
and Workforce Development

Committee on Economic
Development and Agriculture

Committee on Housing, Transportation
and Telecommunications

SECRETARY

Intergovernmental Relations
and Territorial Affairs

My Island. My People. My Concern.

Franelle Gerard, Executive Director, Crucian Heritage & Nature Tourism
Wayne Biggs, Chief Executive Officer, Virgin Islands Economic Development Authority
Deanna James, President, St. Croix Foundation for Community Development
Shomari Moorehead, President, Our Town Frederiksted, Inc.
Mary Dema, President, Virgin Islands Architecture Center for Built Heritage and Crafts
Robert Schuster, Resident, St. Croix