

THE HONORABLE SENATOR AVERY L. LEWIS

Legislative Secretary

36TH LEGISLATURE OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS



Chair: Committee on Government Operations, Veterans Affairs, Consumer Protection

Vice Chair: Committee on Education and Workforce Development

Member: Committee on Rules and Judiciary

Committee on Youth, Aging, Sports, and Parks

Committee on Homeland Security, Justice and Public Safety

Committee of the Whole

REVISED AGENDA I

TO: All Members, Committee on Government Operations, Veterans Affairs, and Consumer Protection

MEMBERS: Senator Ray Fonseca
Senator Alma Francis Heyliger
Senator Novelle E. Francis, Jr.
Senator Kenneth L. Gittens
Senator Franklin D. Johnson
Senator Carla J. Joseph

FROM: The Honorable Senator Avery L. Lewis 116
36th Legislature of the Virgin Islands

DATE: December 1, 2025

The Committee on Government Operations, Veterans Affairs, and Consumer Protection has scheduled a meeting for **Tuesday, December 2, 2025, at 9:00 AM** in the Earle B. Ottley Legislative Hall, St. Thomas, Virgin Islands to provide testimony on the following bills:

BLOCK I: 9:00 A.M. – 10:30 A.M.

The Committee will receive testimony on the operations of the Office of Veterans Affairs including but not limited to an overview of the agency's current challenges, a plan of action to resolve challenges, and any other updates pertinent to the discussion.

INVITED TESTIFIER(S):

- Mr. Patrick Farrell, Director, Virgin Islands Office of Veterans Affairs

BLOCK II: 10:30 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.

The Committee will receive testimony on the operations of the Virgin Islands Waste Management Authority including but not limited to an overview of the agency's current challenges, a plan of action to resolve challenges, and a comprehensive update on the agency.

INVITED TESTIFIER(S):

- Mr. Hannibal “Mike” Ware, Director, Virgin Islands Waste Management Authority

LUNCH BREAK: 12:00 P.M. – 12:30 P.M.

BLOCK III: 12:30 P.M. – 2:00 P.M.

Bill No. 36-0208: A resolution recognizing United States Senator Mike Crapo for his instrumental role in securing the historic increase in the rum cover over tax reimbursement for the Virgin Islands
Proposed by Senator Avery L. Lewis

INVITED TESTIFIER(S):

- Mr. Kevin Callwood, President, Callwood and Associates
- Ms. Teri Helenese, Director, State-Federal Relations and Washington Representative for The Governor of the Virgin Islands
- Mr. Angel E. Dawson, Administrator/CEO, Government Employees Retirement System

BLOCK IV: 2:00 P.M. – 4:00 P.M.

Bill No. 36-0190: An act amending title 1 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 15 section 254 providing for sign language interpreters at all Government of the Virgin Islands broadcasts and official functions
Proposed by Angel L. Bolques, Jr.

INVITED TESTIFIER(S):

- Mr. Angus Drigo, Executive Director, Disability Rights Center of the Virgin Islands (DRCVI)
- Ms. Monique Bute, Executive Director, Virgin Islands Association for Independent Living (VIAIL)
- Ms. Shamika Thomas Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (VIUCEDD)
- Mr. Julio Rhymer Sr., Director, Office of Management & Budget (OMB)
- Mr. Daryl Jaschen, Director, Virgin Islands Territorial Emergency Management Agency (VITEMA)
- Mr. Julian Henley, ADA Coordinator, Office of the Governor – ADA Office

cc: All Senators
 All Chiefs of Staff
 All Divisions
 Public Affairs