



Legislature Of The Virgin Islands

CAPITOL BUILDING, P.O. 1690 ST. THOMAS, U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS 00804

Tel. (340) 693-3515 Fax. (340) 693-3633 Email: senatorcarlajoseph@legvi.org Website: www.senatorcarlajoseph.com

THE HONORABLE
Carla J. Joseph

SENATOR

36th Legislature of the Virgin Islands

*Liaison to the United States Department of Interior
and Office of Insular Affairs*

CHAIR

Committee on Rules and Judiciary

VICE CHAIR

Committee on Culture, Youth, Aging, Sports, and Parks

MEMBER

Committee of the Whole


Committee on Education and Workforce Development

Committee on Housing, Transportation, and Telecommunications

Committee on Government Operations, Veterans Affairs,
and Consumer Protection

Memorandum: 25-026

TO: Mrs. Kurell A. Sheridan, JD
Executive Director
36th Legislature of the V.I.

FROM: The Honorable Carla J. Joseph 
Chair
Committee on Rules and Judiciary

DATE: October 27, 2025

SUBJECT: Committee Report for Thursday, October 23, 2025 Hearing

Please find attached the report for the Committee on Rules and Judiciary hearing held on Thursday, October 23, 2025, Earle B. Ottley Legislative Hall on St. Thomas.

CC: All Senators
Chief Legal Counsel
Archive Division
Journal Division

RULES AND JUDICIARY
October 23, 2025 COMMITTEE HEARING REPORT

The Committee on Rules and Judiciary held its hearing on Thursday, October 23, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. in the Earle B. Ottley Legislative Hall on St. Thomas. The Committee considered the following Nominations and Bills:

- **Ms. Joan P. Foy** – Governor’s Nominee for the Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority Board
- **Mr. Mark M. Wiechnik, Esq.** – Governor’s Nominee for the Virgin Islands Historic Preservation Commission
- **Bill No. 36-0140** – An act amending title 3 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 22, section 403, clarifying the term of service for members of the Historic Preservation Commission. **Sponsored by: Senator Avery L. Lewis**
- **Bill No. 36-0141** – An act amending title 3 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 22, section 415 to add a term of service for appointees to the Board of Physical Therapy. **Sponsored by: Senator Avery L. Lewis**
- **Bill No. 36-0142** – An act amending title 27 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 17, section 45, by changing the maximum number of members of the Board for the Licensing of Barbering and Cosmetology. **Sponsored by: Senator Avery L. Lewis**
- **Bill No. 36-0083** – An act establishing a 90-day amnesty period for the waiver of penalties for payment of outstanding property taxes, income taxes, and gross receipt taxes for all tax years to assist taxpayers and businesses recovering from the aftermath of Hurricanes Irma and Maria and Tropical Storm Ernesto. **Sponsored by: Senators Kenneth L. Gittens and Novelle E. Francis, Jr.**
- **Bill No. 36-0119** – An act amending Act No. 8651 by reprogramming the appropriated funds to the Department of Sports, Parks, and Recreation to fund the completion of the Randall “Doc” James Racetrack on St. Croix. **Sponsored by: Senators Avery L. Lewis, Angel L. Bolques, Jr. and Marise C. James**

The meeting was called to order by the Committee Chair, Sen. Carla J. Joseph at 10:20 a.m.

Committee Members Present

Sen. Carla J. Joseph, Chair
 Sen. Alma Francis Heyliger
 Sen. Avery L. Lewis
 Sen. Angel L. Bolques, Jr.

Office of the Executive Director

Mr. Charles Brown, Jr.
 Ms. Jervon Ottley
 Mr. Isaac Winston

Sergeant-At-Arms

Mr. Delvin Fleming
 Mr. Alphonso Boyce

Public Affairs/Media

Mr. Bernard Mathews
 Ms. Malissa Gustave
 Mr. Jamal Potter
 Mr. Barry Leerdam
 Ms. Chaunte Herbert
 Mr. Alwyn Baptiste
 Mr. Dequan Milliner

Committee Member Absent/Excused

Sen. Kenneth L. Gittens, Vice Chair
 Sen. Clifford A. Joseph, Sr.
 Sen. Milton E. Potter

Legislative Reporters

Mrs. Nataya Munoz-Melchoir
 Ms. Tricia D. Sealey
 Mrs. Vashti Gerald-Berry
 Mrs. Nadine Coley-Williams

Clerk/Timekeeper

Mrs. Deleka Callwood Daniel

Additional Supporting Staff

Ms. Shania Nieves

Legal Counsel

Mrs. Nandi Sekou, Esq.

In block one of the Agenda, the Committee considered the Governor's Nominations: **Ms. Joy P. Foy to the Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority Board and Mr. Mark M. Wiechnik, Esq. to the Virgin Islands Historic Preservation Commission.** Senators proceeded with one (1) round of five (5) minutes of questioning time for the nominees.

Governor's Nominee Name	Position	Placement	Motion	Vote
Ms. Joan P. Foy	Member	Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority Board	Senator Avery Lewis motioned that Ms. Foy, be favorably voted upon in the Committee on Rules and Judiciary and forwarded to the full body for further consideration and action. The motion was seconded by Senator Angel Bolques, Jr. and Alma Francis Heyliger.	4 yeas— 3 absent
Mr. Mark M. Wiechnik, Esq	Member	Virgin Islands Historic Preservation Commission	Senator Avery Lewis motioned that Mr. Wiechnik, be favorably voted upon in the Committee on Rules and Judiciary and forwarded to the full body for further consideration and action. The motion was seconded by Senator Angel Bolques Jr. and Alma Francis Heyliger.	4 yeas— 3 absent

In block two of the Agenda, the Committee considered **Bill No. 36-0140**. Senators proceeded with one (1) round of three (3) minutes to talk pertaining to the bill in the second block.

Bill Number	Short Title	Amendment	Motion	Vote
36-0140	An act amending title 3 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 22, section 403, clarifying the term of service for members of the Historic Preservation Commission. Sponsored by: Senator Avery L. Lewis		Senator Avery Lewis motioned that Bill No. 36-0140 , be favorably voted upon in the Committee on Rules and Judiciary and forwarded to the full body for further consideration and action. The motion was seconded by Senator Angel Bolques Jr.	4 yeas— 3 absent

In block three of the Agenda, the Committee considered **Bill Nos. 36-0141 and 36-0142**. Senators proceeded with one (1) round of four (4) minutes to talk pertaining to all the bills in the third block.

Bill Number	Short Title	Amendment	Motion	Vote
36-0141	An act amending title 3 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 22, section 415 to add a term of service for appointees to the Board of Physical Therapy. Sponsored by: Senator Avery L. Lewis		Senator Avery Lewis motioned that Bill No. 36-0141 , be favorably voted upon in the Committee on Rules and Judiciary and forwarded to the full body for further consideration and action. The motion was seconded by Senators Angel Bolques Jr. and Alma Francis Heyliger	4 yeas— 3 absent
36-0142	An act amending title 27 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 17, section 45, by changing the maximum number of members of the Board for the Licensing of Barbering and Cosmetology. Sponsored by: Senator Avery L. Lewis		Senator Avery Lewis motioned that Bill No. 36-0142 , be favorably voted upon in the Committee on Rules and Judiciary and forwarded to the full body for further consideration and action. The motion was seconded by Senators Angel Bolques Jr. and Alma Francis Heyliger	4 yeas— 3 absent

In block four of the Agenda, the Committee considered **Bill Nos. 36-0083 and Bill No. 36-0119**. Senators proceeded with one (1) round of three (3) minutes to talk pertaining to all the bills in the fourth block.

Bill Number	Short Title	Amendment	Motion	Vote
36-0083	An act establishing a 90-day amnesty period for the waiver of penalties for payment of outstanding property taxes, income taxes, and gross receipt taxes for all tax years to assist taxpayers and businesses recovering from the aftermath of Hurricanes Irma and Maria and Tropical Storm Ernesto. Sponsored By: Senators Kenneth L. Gittens and Novelle E. Francis, Jr.	Senator Avery Lewis offered Amendment No. 36-490 which was seconded by Senators Angel Bolques Jr. and Alma Francis Heyliger, the motion was carried.	Senator Avery Lewis motioned that Bill No. 36-0083 as amended , be favorably voted upon in the Committee on Rules and Judiciary and forwarded to the full body for further consideration and action. The motion was seconded by Senators Angel Bolques Jr. and Alma Francis Heyliger	4 yeas —3 absent
36-0119	An act amending Act No. 8651 by reprogramming the appropriated funds to the Department of Sports, Parks, and Recreation to fund the completion of the Randall “Doc” James Racetrack on St. Croix. Sponsored By: Senators Avery L. Lewis, Angel L. Bolques Jr., and Marise C. James		Senator Avery Lewis motioned that Bill No. 36-0119 , be favorably voted upon in the Committee on Rules and Judiciary and forwarded to the full body for further consideration and action. The motion was seconded by Senators Angel Bolques Jr. and Alma Francis Heyliger.	4 yeas —3 absent

The Chair, Sen. Carla J. Joseph, adjourned the Committee on Rules and Judiciary hearing at 3:34 p.m.