



# Legislature Of The Virgin Islands

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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  
36<sup>th</sup> 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. Delekah 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.

<b>Governor's Nominee Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Placement</b>	<b>Motion</b>	<b>Vote</b>
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
<b>36-0140</b>	An act amending title 3 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 22, section 403, clarifying the term of service for members of the Historic Preservation Commission. <b>Sponsored by: Senator Avery L. Lewis</b>		Senator Avery Lewis motioned that <b>Bill No. 36-0140</b> , 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
<b>36-0141</b>	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. <b>Sponsored by: Senator Avery L. Lewis</b>		Senator Avery Lewis motioned that <b>Bill No. 36-0141</b> , 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
<b>36-0142</b>	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. <b>Sponsored by: Senator Avery L. Lewis</b>		Senator Avery Lewis motioned that <b>Bill No. 36-0142</b> , 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
<b>36-0083</b>	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. <b>Sponsored By:</b> Senators Kenneth L. Gittens and Novelle E. Francis, Jr.	Senator Avery Lewis offered <b>Amendment No. 36-490</b> which was seconded by Senators Angel Bolques Jr. and Alma Francis Heyliger, the motion was carried.	Senator Avery Lewis motioned that <b>Bill No. 36-0083 as amended</b> , 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
<b>36-0119</b>	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. <b>Sponsored By:</b> Senators Avery L. Lewis, Angel L. Bolques Jr., and Marise C. James		Senator Avery Lewis motioned that <b>Bill No. 36-0119</b> , 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.