



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: 25-007

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: April 30, 2025

SUBJECT: Committee Report for Thursday, April 24, 2025 Hearing

Please find attached the report for the Committee on Rules and Judiciary hearing held on Thursday, April 24, 2025 in the Frits E. Lawaetz Legislative Conference Room, St. Croix.

Cc: All Senators
Chief Legal Counsel
Archive Division
Journal Division

RULES AND JUDICIARY
APRIL 24, 2025 COMMITTEE HEARING REPORT

The Committee on Rules and Judiciary held its hearing on Thursday, April 24, 2025, at the Frits E. Lawaetz Legislative Conference Room on St. Croix. The Committee considered the following Governor's Re-Nomination and Bills:

- **The Honorable Jessica Gallivan, Judge for the Superior Court of the Virgin Islands** – Judge for the Superior Court of the Virgin Islands,
- **Bill No. 36-0005** – An Act amending title 16 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 2, section 99 establishing a mandatory minimum bail amount in domestic violence cases. **Sponsored by: Senators Angel L. Bolques, Jr., Dwayne M. DeGraff and Carla Joseph,**
- **Bill No. 36-0036** - An Act repealing and reenacting title 20 Virgin Islands Code, part II, chapter 43, section 512 increasing penalties for traffic violations; establishing a Virgin Islands Police Department Impound Lot; and for other related purposes. **Sponsored by: Senators Kenneth L. Gittens, Franklin D. Johnson, Avery L. Lewis, Dwayne M. DeGraff and Carla Joseph. Co-Sponsor: Senator Marise C. James and Kurt A. Violet, and**
- **Bill No. 36-0063**- An Act amending title 33, Virgin Islands Code subtitle 1, chapter 3, sections 41, 42(a), and 43(a) and (c) to clarify that gross receipts taxes must be paid by all contractors doing business in the Virgin Islands regardless of physical location. **Sponsored By: Senators Clifford A. Joseph, Sr., Novelle E. Francis, Jr., Marise C. James, Hubert L. Frederick, Angel L. Bolques, Jr., Franklin D. Johnson and Marvin A. Blyden.**

The meeting was called to order by the Committee Chair, Sen. Carla J. Joseph at 10:31 a.m.

Committee Members Present

Sen. Carla J. Joseph, Chair
 Sen. Kenneth L. Gittens, Vice Chair
 Sen. Angel L. Bolques, Jr.
 Sen. Alma Francis Heyliger
 Sen. Clifford A. Joseph, Sr.
 Sen. Avery L. Lewis
 Sen. Milton E. Potter

Office of the Executive Director

Mr. Charles Brown, Jr.
 Ms. Myrna De-Altier-Pickard

Sergeant-At-Arms

Mr. David Johnson
 Ms. Cynthia Jackson

Non-Committee Members Present

Sen. Novelle E. Francis, Jr.
 Sen. Marise C. James

Legislative Reporters

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

Clerk/Timekeeper

Ms. Khadijah Hodge

Supporting Staff

Ms. Neta Christopher

Public Affairs/Media

Mr. Kashief Hamilton
Ms. Chaunte Herbert
Ms. Diana Cruz
Mr. Jamal Potter
Mr. Barry Leerdam
Mr. Alwyn Baptiste, Jr.
Mr. Eustace Browne

Legal Counsel

Attorney Cynthia B. Moore

In block one of the meeting, The Honorable Jessica Gallivan, Judge for the Superior Court of the Virgin Islands, Governor's Re-Nominee for the Superior Court of the Virgin Islands, read her testimony into the record. Senators proceeded with one (1) round of seven (7) minutes each of questioning. Senator Kenneth L. Gittens motioned that the nomination of The Honorable Jessica Gallivan to the Superior Court of the Virgin Islands 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 Potter, Clifford A. Joseph, Sr., and Francis Heyliger. Voting in favor were Senators Carla Joseph, Gittens, Francis Heyliger, Bolques, Clifford Joseph, Lewis, and Potter. The motion was carried. **(7 yea)**.

In the final block of the meeting, **Bill Nos. 36-0005** was introduced by Senator Angel L. Bolques, Jr., **36-0036** was introduced by Senator Novelle E. Francis, Jr., and **36-0063** was introduced by Senator Clifford A. Joseph, Sr. Senators proceeded with one (1) round of four (5) minutes each of debate time.

Senator Angel Bolques, Jr., made a motion to wave rule 406 and to move **Amendment No. 36-353** to **Bill No. 36-0005**. The motion was seconded by Senator Lewis. The motion was carried. Senator Bolques made a motion for **Bill No. 36-0005** to 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 Potter, Lewis and Gittens. Voting in favor were Senators Carla Joseph, Gittens, Bolques, Francis Heyliger, Clifford Joseph, Lewis, and Potter. The motion was carried. **(7 yea)**.

Senator Kenneth L. Gittens made a motion for **Bill No. 36-0036** to 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 Potter and Clifford Joseph. Voting in favor were Senators Carla Joseph, Gittens, Bolques, Francis Heyliger, Clifford Joseph, Lewis, and Potter. The motion was carried. **(7 yea)**.

Senator Clifford A. Joseph, Sr., made a motion for **Bill No. 36-0063** to 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 Potter. Voting in favor were Senators Carla Joseph, Gittens, Bolques, Francis Heyliger, Clifford Joseph, Lewis, and Potter. The motion was carried. **(7 yea)**.

The Chair, Sen. Carla J. Joseph, adjourned the Committee on Rules and Judiciary hearing at 2:59 p.m.