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

REVISED I

COMMITTEE ON RULES AND JUDICIARY

AGENDA

The 36th Legislature of the Virgin Islands Committee on Rules and Judiciary has scheduled a hearing for **10:00 a.m. on Thursday, October 22, 2026 in the Earle B. Ottley Legislative Hall on St. Thomas.** The purpose of the hearing is to consider the following legislative measures and Governor's Nominees.

BLOCK I: NOMINEES **10:00 AM – 11:30 AM**

Mrs. Ardrina Scott Elliott
Governor's Nominee
Board of Parole and representative of the District of St. Thomas - St. John

Dr. Tylur D. Arvidson
Governor's Nominee
The Board of Chiropractic Examiners

BLOCK II: NOMINEES **11:30 AM – 1:00 PM**

Ms. Caryn Hodge
Governor's Nominee
Virgin Islands Historic Preservation Commission

Mr. Frederick A. Morton, Esq.
Governor's Nominee
GERS Board of Trustees

LUNCH: **1:00 PM –2:00 PM**

BLOCK III: **2:00 PM – 3:30 PM**

Bill No 36-0277 – An act enacting a comprehensive probate code for the Virgin Islands to govern intestate and testate succession, administration of decedents' estates, and related procedures. **Proposed by Senator Novelle E. Francis, Jr.**

Invited Testifiers:

The Honorable Rhys S. Hodge
Chief Justice
Department of Justice

The Honorable Gordan C. Rhea, Esq.
Attorney General
Department of Justice

Ms. Shari N. D'Andrade, Esq
President
Virgin Islands Bar Association

Mr. Troy De Chabert-Schuster
State Director
AARP Virgin Islands

Ms. Jessica C. Tully, Esq.
Attorney & Real Estate Broker
Tully Law, PLLC

Mr. Ben Orzeske, Esq.
Chief Counsel
Uniform Law Commission

Mr. Tom Bolt, Esq.
President/ CEO
BoltNagi PC Attorneys at Law

Mr. Wayne L. Biggs, Jr.
Chief Executive Officer
Virgin Islands Economic Development Authority

BLOCK IV: BILLS **3:30 PM – 4:00 PM**

Bill No. 36-0048 – An Act amending title 22, Virgin Islands Code, chapter 3 relating to annual rate changes for medical malpractice liability insurance and amending title 27, Virgin Islands Code, chapter 1 by increasing the limitation on recovery in medical malpractice actions from $250,000 to $400,000; designating the records and testimony gathered by quality improvement committees as confidential; and establishing additional requirements for filing medical malpractice claims. **Proposed by Senator Novelle E. Francis, Jr.**

Bill No. 36-0280 – An act amending title 19 Virgin Islands Code, part IV, chapter 37, subchapter II, section 831, subsection (a), paragraph (2), by giving a parent of a newborn, who is born in a government hospital, the option to receive the child's birth certificate by mail. **Proposed by Senator Hubert L. Frederick**

Bill No. 36-0218 – An act honoring and commending Jerome Austin Browne for his outstanding achievements and contributions to baseball and the youth of St. Croix by renaming Prince Street in Christiansted "Jerry Browne Street". **Proposed by Senator Angel L. Bolques, Jr.**

Bill No. 36-0229 – An act honoring and commending Adelbert M. "Bert" Bryan for his outstanding contributions and dedicated service to the Virgin Islands community, particularly on the island of St. Croix, and to ceremoniously name Queen Street in Frederiksted, St. Croix, in his honor as "Adelbert M. "Bert" Bryan Drive". **Proposed by Senator Kenneth L. Gittens**

Bill No. 36-0281 – An act honoring and commending Hans Lawaetz for his lifetime of exemplary service to the Virgin Islands and awarding him the Virgin Islands Medal of Honor. **Proposed by Senator Novelle E. Francis, Jr.**

Bill No. 36-0319 – An act honoring and commending Rena Brodhurst for her extraordinary contributions to journalism and the preservation of the Virgin Islands' historical and cultural narrative and awarding her the Virgin Islands Medal of Honor. **Proposed by Senator Novelle E. Francis, Jr.**

Bill No. 36-0320 – A resolution honoring and commending Kevre Hendricks for his outstanding contributions to music, education, military service, and cultural preservation in the Virgin Islands. **Proposed by Senator Kurt A. Vialet**

Bill No. 36-0323 – An act honoring and commending Maude "Maudie" Dowdy Roberts posthumously and concurrently designating Prince Street in Frederiksted the "Maude 'Maudie' Dowdy Roberts Drive". **Proposed by Senator Kenneth L. Gittens**

CC: All Senators
All Chiefs of Staff
All Divisions
Public Affairs
Media