

THE UNITED STATES VIRGIN ISLANDS

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR GOVERNMENT HOUSE

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September 2, 2019

The Honorable Donald J. Trump President of the United States The White House Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President,

On behalf of over 300,000 people who have been negatively affected by the recent passing of Hurricane Dorian, I am compelled to ask you to extend humanitarian aid to the leadership and people of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas.

In 2017 the Virgin Islands of the United States were hit by two Category 5 hurricanes, within one week of each other. Less than a week ago, our residents once again braced for the unpredictability of a tropical storm that soon developed into a Category 1 hurricane. In both instances, our islands took a direct hit. Having had these experiences, the people of the Virgin Islands understand all too well the feelings of helplessness, distress and displaced sense of purpose, safety and peace that the people of The Bahamas are currently experiencing.

As a Territory of the United States, Virgin Islanders are grateful for the assistance that has been rendered to us by our federal government. We have also benefited greatly from the immediate care, compassion, and support of countries and persons that helped with monetary donations and supplies during our time of need. We can attest to the comfort we felt when global communities came together to lift our spirits and ease the burden of the disaster recovery process. Seeing the unprecedented devastation to the homes, businesses, and beauty of The Bahamas created by the magnitude of Hurricane Dorian, and understanding the uncertainties of their future, I am obliged to seek your assistance on behalf of the Bahamian people.

Mr. President, I sincerely thank you for considering my plea for all humanitarian support you deem feasible during this difficult time. I am certain that any efforts that can be extended will greatly help the people of The Bahamas rebuild their lives with a renewed sense of hope.

Respectfully,

Albert Bryan Jr.

cc:

The Honorable Dr. Hubert A. Minnis, Prime Minister