

THE UNITED STATES VIRGIN ISLANDS OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR GOVERNMENT HOUSE Charlotte Amalie, V.I. 00802 340-774-0001

EIGHTH SUPPLEMENTAL EXECUTIVE ORDER AND PROCLAMATION BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE UNITED STATES VIRGIN ISLANDS

IMPLEMENTING THE OPEN DOORS PHASE IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19 STATE OF EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, On March 13, 2020, the Governor issued the Executive Order and Proclamation Declaring a State of Emergency in response to the COVID-19 – CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC ("Declaration of a State of Emergency"), and the Government has been coordinating the Territory's response and enforcing protective actions to address "COVID-19", a public health emergency that currently requires the Government to act and provide for the health, safety, and welfare of residents and visitors located in the Virgin Islands; and

WHEREAS, From March 13, 2020 through May 2020, the Governor issued seven subsequent Executive Orders or Supplements with additional requirements but as of June 1, 2020, has lifted the restrictions of previous Executive Orders and Supplement to begin its "Open Door Phase"; and

WHEREAS, The implementation of the "Open Door Phase" requires guidance to be given to the public about what is restricted and permissible during the "Open Door Phase" and while still within a "State of Emergency" due to the danger and threat of Covid-19; and

WHEREAS, Declaration of a State of Emergency Executive Order dated March 13, 2020, invoked the Virgin Islands Territorial Emergency Management Act, 23 V.I.C. § 1001 - 1016 and authorizes the Governor to exercise the powers and duties set forth therein to direct and aid the response to, recovery from, and guidance for the mitigation as well as response to emergencies; and

WHEREAS, On April 2, 2020, the President of the United States declared that a major disaster exists in the Territory of the U.S. Virgin Islands-based on COVID-19 and this major disaster declaration has not been lifted; and

WHEREAS, The Virgin Islands Department of Health ("DOH") received confirmation from the Center for Disease Control ("CDC") that seventy (70) persons, including six (6) deceased persons, tested positive for COVID-19 in the Virgin Islands and additional testing of

individuals for COVID-19 are still being made or pending; and

WHEREAS, Imposing guidelines and restrictions during the Government's Open Door Phase is vital to the protection, health, safety, and welfare of residents and visitors of the Territory;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Albert Bryan, Jr., Governor of the United States Virgin Islands, under the authority granted to me by Section 11 of the Revised Organic Act of 1954 (as amended), and through the afore-cited sections of the Virgin Islands Code, as well as all previous Executive Orders issued from March 13, 2020, through May 31, 2020, including Executive Orders dated March 20, 2020, March 23, 2020, March 30, 2020, April 6, 2020, April 20, 2020, April 29, 2020, May 4, 2020, and May 7, 2020, as amended, renewed, and extended, do hereby ORDER:

<u>SECTION 1.</u> To effectuate the terms for the Open Doors Phase of the State of Emergency declared in response to the COVID-19 – CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC as amended, renewed, and extended, agencies of the Government have coordinated in preparing Guidance Memoranda in the form attached hereto for the following categories of guidelines:

- COVID-19 GUIDANCE FOR RESTAURANTS, BARS AND NIGHTCLUBS
- COVID-19 GUIDANCE FOR GYM AND FITNESS CENTER RE-OPENING
- COVID-19 GUIDANCE FOR RE-OPENING HOUSES OF WORSHIP FOR SERVICES
- COVID-19 GUIDANCE TAXI VAN, SAFARIS, AND LIMOUSINE SERVICES
- COVID-19 GUIDANCE FOR USVI TOURISM ACCOMMODATION INDUSTRY

Such Guidance Memoranda shall amend and supersede the applying conditions from the previous Executive Orders from March 13, 2020, through May 31, 2020, including Executive Orders dated March 20, 2020, March 23, 2020, March 30, 2020, April 6, 2020, April 20, 2020, April 29, 2020, May 4, 2020, and May 7, 2020, as amended, renewed, and extended, including Section 1 B.i. of the Executive Order issued on March 23, 2020 as it applies to bars and restaurants, and shall have the same force and effect as the terms of this Executive Order and shall be enforceable by all Enforcement Officers. The attached Guidance Memoranda also supersede any prior drafts of such Memoranda. Such Guidance may be further amended from time as experiences and circumstances require.

All other terms, requirements, and conditions of the March 13, 2020, State of Emergency, as amended, renewed, and extended, shall continue in full force and effect unless earlier lifted, further amended, or extended by order of the Governor of the United States Virgin Islands

SECTION 2. This Executive Order is effective immediately, and it shall remain in effect so long as the Territory remains in a State of Emergency as declared on March 13, 2020, as amended, renewed, and extended on March 20, 2020, March 23, 2020, March 30, 20202, April 6, 2020, April

22, 2020, April 29, 2020, May 4, 2020, and May 7, 2020, and as further amended, renewed, and extended, until rescinded or superseded by any other applicable Executive Order.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Government of the United States Virgin Islands to be affixed at Christiansted, St. Croix, Virgin Islands, this 30th day of May, A.D., 2020.

Albert Bryan Jr. Governor

ATTEST:

Tregenza A. Roach, Esquire Lieutenant Governor