

THE UNITED STATES VIRGIN ISLANDS

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

TENTH SUPPLEMENTAL EXECUTIVE ORDER AND PROCLAMATION BY THE GOVERNOR

OF THE UNITED STATES VIRGIN ISLANDS REVISING CONDITIONS UNDER 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, 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, From March 13, 2020 through June 2020, the Governor issued eight subsequent Executive Orders or Supplements with additional requirements and lifting of other restrictions of previous Executive Orders and Supplement to begin its "Open Door Phase"; and

WHEREAS, The implementation of the "Open Door Phase" requires continuous 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, The Virgin Islands Department of Health ("DOH") received confirmation from the Center for Disease Control ("CDC") that one hundred forty-four (144) 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, May 7, 2020, May 30, 2020, and July 1, 2020, as amended, supplemented, renewed, and extended, do hereby ORDER:

<u>SECTION 1.</u> To continue to support the Open Doors Phase of the State of Emergency declared in response to the COVID-19 – CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC as amended, renewed, and extended, <u>effective immediately</u>, and in addition to the **COVID-19 GUIDANCE FOR RESTAURANTS**, BARS AND NIGHTCLUBS issued in the Eight Supplemental Executive Order on May 30, 2020, as supplemented by the Ninth Supplemental Executive Order promulgated July 1, 2020:

- A. All bars (in addition to all nightclubs/cabarets) and gaming facilities in the Territory of the U.S. Virgin Islands shall remain closed, so long as the Territory remains in a State of Emergency as declared on March 13, 2020, as amended, supplemented, extended, and renewed, unless earlier lifted by order of the Governor of the U.S. Virgin Islands.
- B. In all restaurants in the Territory of the U.S. Virgin Islands, NO patrons shall be allowed to congregate standing around the restaurant bar area; patrons at the restaurant may only be seated at allocated seating within the social distancing guidelines of six (6) feet away from other groups. Restaurants may sell food for on-site consumption or for take-out pick-up. Restaurants may sell alcoholic beverages to patrons in the restaurant and to-go with take-out orders. Service of alcoholic beverages to persons waiting in or outside restaurant should be treated as part of food service. But no service of alcohol alone to persons outside restaurant.

<u>SECTION 2.</u> All beaches in the Territory of the U.S. Virgin Islands shall be closed from 4:00 p.m. until 6:00 a.m. the following day, on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays so long as the Territory

remains in a State of Emergency as declared on March 13, 2020, as amended, supplemented, extended, and renewed, unless earlier lifted by order of the Governor of the U.S. Virgin Islands. Only fishermen may be on the beach during the beach closure to access their vessels or cast their nets.

There shall be no picnics, no parties, no disc-jockey (DJ), no DJ equipment or the likes, no camping, no bonfire, no cooking, no barbecuing or grilling allowed on any beach in the Territory of the U.S. Virgin Islands so long as the Territory remains in a State of Emergency as declared on March 13, 2020, as amended, supplemented, extended, and renewed, unless earlier lifted by order of the Governor of the U.S. Virgin Islands.

SECTION 3. Effective July 15, 2020, and continuing as long as the Territory remains in a State of Emergency as declared on March 13, 2020, as amended, supplemented, extended, and renewed, unless earlier lifted by order of the Governor of the U.S. Virgin Islands, every person who enters the Territory of the U.S. Virgin Islands from a point of origin in a country, state, or territory with a positive test rate higher than a 10% test positivity rate shall be subject to mandatory self-quarantine for a period of 14 days, consistent with Department of Health regulations for quarantine, from the time of entry into the Territory or the duration of the person's presence in the Territory, whichever is shorter, unless the person presents a COVID-19 negative test result obtained within 5-days of commencement of travel to the US Virgin Islands. The requirement to self-quarantine for a period of 14 days may be reduced by the person obtaining a COVID-19 negative test result after arrival in the Territory. In-transit transfers through airports in such designated states or territories are not applicable to this restriction.

This travel restriction currently applies to passengers age 15 years and older. The Territory will be relying on the data compiled and aggregated by Johns Hopkins University, which is updated daily, to determine the points of origin that fall under the restrictions of this Section. A list, to be periodically updated, shall be posted on the websites of the Virgin Islands Department of Tourism (https://usviupdate.com) and the Virgin Islands Department of Health (https://www.covid19usvi.com).

Each person covered under this section ordered to self-quarantine shall be responsible for all associated costs, including transportation, lodging, food, and medical care. A covered person shall proceed directly from the airport to the designated quarantine location provided to the V.I. Department of Health.

<u>SECTION 4.</u> All businesses are encouraged to have employees who are not critical to inperson/on-site operations or that are not classified as essential to work from home or remotely. The public is advised to stay Safer-at-Home and only leave as necessary. SECTION 5. 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, May 7, 2020, May 30, 2020, and July 1, 2020, and as further amended, supplemented, 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 Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas, Virgin Islands, this 9th day of July, A.D., 2020.

Albert Bryan, Jr. Governor

ATTEST:

Tregenza A. Boach, Esquire

Lieutenant Governor