

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

## ELEVENTH 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

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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 July 2020, the Governor has issued 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 three hundred sixty-four (364) persons, including seven (7) 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 as well as continuing the response and mitigation process;

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, July 1, 2020, and July 9, 2020, as amended, supplemented, renewed, and extended, do hereby ORDER:

SECTION 1. 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:

- A. Section 1 Subsection B of the Ninth Supplemental Executive Order issued on July 1, 2020, which would have set an expiration date on Section 4 subsection A of the Supplemental Executive Order issued on March 23, 2020, suspending the provisions of Title 28, Chapter 13, Section 281 and Chapter 13, Sections 751(b), 782(a) of the Virgin Islands Code, relating to landlord-tenant actions and establishing the right of actions to recover possession of real property, demand for rent, or for forceable entry and detainer, is RESCINDED; and
- B. Section 4 Subsection A of the Supplemental Executive Order issued on March 23, 2020, suspending the provisions of Title 28, Chapter 13, Section 281 and Chapter 13, Sections 751(b), 782(a) of the Virgin Islands Code, relating to landlord-tenant actions and establishing the right of actions to recover possession of real property, demand for rent, or for forceable entry and detainer shall continue in full force and effect for a period of sixty (60) days from the date hereof and are hereby amended as follows:
  - Actions to recover possession of real property, demand for rent, or for forceable entry
    and detainer for rental payment arrears greater than 60 days shall be allowed, subject
    to the provisions of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Stimulus Act (CARES
    Act).
- C. Section 4 of the Fifth Supplemental Executive Order issued on April 20, 2020, forbidding increases in rent for residential and commercial properties shall remain in full force and effect.

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

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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, July 1, 2020, and July 9, 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 27th day of July, A.D., 2020.

Albert Bryan, Jr. Governor

ATTEST:

Tregenza A. Boach, Esquire Lieutenant Governor