



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

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 505-2020

**BY THE GOVERNOR
OF THE UNITED STATES VIRGIN ISLANDS
DECLARING A STATE OF EMERGENCY IN THE
UNITED STATES VIRGIN ISLANDS
DUE TO TROPICAL CYCLONE NINE**

WHEREAS, Title 23, Section 1005(a), Virgin Islands Code, vests in the Governor the responsibility for meeting the dangers to the Territory of the United States Virgin Islands and its people presented by emergencies or major disasters;

WHEREAS, On July 28, 2020, the National Hurricane Center placed the United States Virgin Islands under a Tropical Storm Warning based on the present course and forecast for **Tropical Cyclone Nine**, which has the capability of inflicting damage on residential, commercial, industrial and governmental facilities on the islands of St. Croix, St. Thomas, St. John, and Water Island;

WHEREAS, The aforesaid Tropical Storm Warning means that tropical storm conditions are possible within the Territory, continuing generally for and within a period of 24-36 hours, with potential for severe weather, mostly heavy rain to continue through July 30, 2020;

WHEREAS, Title 23, Section 1005(d), Virgin Islands Code, vests in the Governor the authority to declare a State of Emergency when it is determined that an emergency or major disaster has occurred or is imminent;

WHEREAS, The Governor of the United States Virgin Islands, in order to protect the lives and property of the residents of the Territory, can activate all necessary and possible territorial resources under the Virgin Islands Territorial Emergency Management Agency, other agencies and partners to complete the preparation necessary to protect life and property;

WHEREAS, It is necessary to impose a curfew to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the residents of the Territory from the potentially dangerous effects of the landing of **Tropical Cyclone Nine** including flash floods, heavy rainfall, falling debris and mudslides;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Albert Bryan, Jr., Governor of the United States Virgin Islands, by virtue of the authority granted to me by Section 11 of the Revised Organic Act of 1954, as amended, and afore-cited sections of the Virgin Islands Code, do hereby **DECLARE** as follows:

1. A State of Emergency throughout the United States Virgin Islands effective 2:00 p.m. July 29, 2020, and such State of Emergency shall continue in effect until the Governor finds that the threat or danger has passed or that the response and recovery has progressed to the point that a state of emergency no longer exists, unless earlier lifted or extended by Order of the Governor of the United States Virgin Islands consistent with Title 23, Section 1005(d) of the Virgin Islands Code;
2. In conjunction with this State of Emergency, a Territory-wide curfew is imposed effective on July 30, 2020 beginning at 12:00 a.m. continuing until 12:00 p.m. on July 30, 2020, unless earlier amended, lifted, or extended by Order of the Governor of the United States Virgin Islands;
3. All Territorial Peace Officers who have not yet been deputized are hereby deputized as law enforcement officers of the United States Virgin Islands specifically to perform public safety functions as required by the Governor before, during, and after Tropical Cyclone Nine throughout the State of Emergency, and each shall report immediately to the Commissioner of Police, his designated representative on each island or the VITEMA representative of each island for the purpose of executing the Governor's orders and executive decisions; and
4. The disaster preparation, response and recovery aspects of the territorial and inter-jurisdictional emergency and major disaster plans applicable to the area in question, shall be activated, and the deployment and use of any forces to which the plan or plans apply and the use or distribution of any supplies, equipment, materials, and facilities assembled, stockpiled, or arranged to be made available shall also be authorized pursuant to the provisions of Title 23, Section 1005(e) and any other provision of law relating to emergencies or major disasters.
5. In accordance with the provisions of Title 23, Section 1005(g)(1), Virgin Islands Code, the Commissioner of the Department of Licensing and Consumer Affairs is hereby

authorized and directed to issue a Price Freeze and Restricted Sale Order to protect the consumers of this Territory.

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 29th day of July, A.D., 2020.



A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of stylized loops and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Albert Bryan, Jr.
Governor

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, written in a cursive style, with a long horizontal stroke above it.

Tregenza A. Roach
Lt. Governor