



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

**THIRTY-SEVENTH SUPPLEMENTAL EXECUTIVE ORDER AND PROCLAMATION
BY THE GOVERNOR
OF THE UNITED STATES VIRGIN ISLANDS
MOVING TO THE "OPEN DOOR 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 May 2022, the Governor has issued subsequent Executive Orders or Supplements with additional requirements and lifting of other restrictions of previous Executive Orders and Supplements during the “Safer-at-Home Phase”; and

WHEREAS, the Territory is now prepared to transition to the “Open Door Phase” of the response to the COVID-19 Pandemic and continuous guidance is to be given to the public about what is restricted and permissible during this phase of the “State of Emergency” due to the danger and threat of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Order Declaring a State of Emergency dated March 13, 2020, invoked the Virgin Islands Territorial Emergency Management Act, 23 V.I.C. § 1001 - 1016 and authorized 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 that, as of May 22, 2022, as many as 19,020 persons, including 111 deceased persons, tested positive for COVID-19 in the Virgin Islands, with 798 currently active cases and declining, and

additional testing of individuals for COVID-19 are ongoing or pending; and

WHEREAS, modifying the guidelines and restrictions for the Territory into the “Open Door Phase” is vital to the the Territoty’s progress in protecting the 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), 23 V.I.C. § 1005, and pursuant to all the afore-cited sections of the Virgin Islands Code, as well as all previous Executive Orders issued from March 13, 2020, through May 10, 2022, as amended, supplemented, renewed, and extended, do hereby ORDER as follows:

SECTION 1. Effective May 31, 2022, Section 4 of the *35th Supplemental Executive Order* issued on February 28, 2022, is amended by striking the section on **Travel Restrictions and Operations** except as provided below and removing the requirement for the U.S. Virgin Islands Travel Screening Portal for all domestic travel to and from the United States of America.

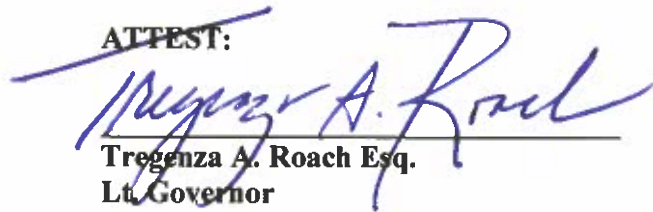
- A. Federal guidelines and restrictions continue to apply to all international travel, including travel from the British Virgin Islands.
- B. For all commercial ferry and private water taxii vessels leaving or entering the territorial waters of the U.S. Virgin Islands, *the maximum number of occupants onboard is seventy-five percent (75%) of the vessel manufacturer specified capacity* in compliance with the maximum capacity certified by the U.S. Coast Guard for the maximum weight and number of passengers for each vessel.

SECTION 2. All other terms, requirements, and conditions of the March 13, 2020, State of Emergency, as amended, supplemented, 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.

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 25th day of May, A.D., 2022.




Albert Bryan Jr.
Governor

ATTEST:

Tregenza A. Roach Esq.
Lt. Governor