

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

## CYBERSECURITY AWARENESS MONTH

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## BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE UNITED STATES VIRGIN ISLANDS

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## **A PROCLAMATION**

WHEREAS, the Government of the U.S. Virgin Islands recognizes that it plays a vital role in identifying, protecting its citizens from, and responding to cybersecurity threats that may have a significant impact on our individual and collective safety and privacy; and

WHEREAS, critical infrastructure (i.e., financial services, educational institutions, energy, telecommunications, transportation, utilities, health care, emergency response systems, etc.) is increasingly reliant on the support of information systems and technology; and

WHEREAS, cybersecurity education and awareness are crucial for everyone, including large corporations, small businesses, financial institutions, schools, government agencies, the home user, and anyone who connects to the internet, be it with a computer, mobile phone, or another internet-connected device; and

WHEREAS, monitoring your accounts, being conscientious of what you share online, keeping computer software up to date, creating unique passwords and changing them regularly, installing antivirus programs and firewalls, and using mobile devices and other internet-connected devices safely are ways people and organizations can protect themselves from phishing, viruses, ransomware, other types of malware, financial loss, and loss of sensitive data; and

WHEREAS, it is critical to inspire, engage, and inform the public about the demand, opportunities, and career options available within the area of cybersecurity and highlight how building the nation's and The Virgin Islands' cybersecurity workforce enhances the nation's security and promotes economic prosperity; and

WHEREAS, the National Institute of Standards and Technology Cybersecurity Workforce Framework (https://www.nist.gov/itl/applied-cybersecurity/nice/nice-framework-resource-center) is a free resource to help organizations (both large and small, public, and private) improve their cybersecurity practices through a practical approach to addressing the ever-evolving cybersecurity threats and challenges; and

WHEREAS, maintaining the security of cyberspace is a shared responsibility in which each of us has a critical role to play, and awareness of essential cyber hygiene will improve the security of the Territory's information, infrastructure, economy; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Government of the United States of America, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (www.cisa.gov), the Multi-State Information Sharing and Analysis Center (https://www.cisecurity.org/ms-isac), the National Association of State Chief Information Officers (www.nascio.org), and the National Cyber Security Alliance (www.staysafeonline.org) all recognize October as Cybersecurity Awareness Month; and all citizens are encouraged to visit these websites, along with the STOP. THINK. CONNECT. TM Campaign website (www.cisa.gov/stopthinkconnect or www.stopthinkconnect.org) to learn about cybersecurity to put that knowledge into practice in their homes, schools, workplaces, and businesses.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Albert Bryan Jr., Governor of the United States Virgin Islands, by virtue of authority invested in me by the Revised Organic Act of 1954, as amended, do hereby proclaim the month of October, as "Cybersecurity Awareness Month" in the United States Virgin Islands. It is important that the Government of the U.S. Virgin Islands assist every individual and public and private organization to have the resources necessary to ensure the understanding, implementation, and success of Cybersecurity Awareness Month to help Virgin Islanders stay safe online and connect with confidence.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, 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 August, A.D. 2022

Albert Bryan, Jr.

Governor

Tregenza A./Roach, Esq.

Lieutenant Governor