



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

**TWENTY-FIFTH SUPPLEMENTAL EXECUTIVE ORDER AND PROCLAMATION
BY THE GOVERNOR
OF THE UNITED STATES VIRGIN ISLANDS
MODIFYING CONDITIONS OF THE "SAFER-AT-HOME" 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 February 2021, the Governor has issued subsequent Executive Orders or Supplements with additional requirements and lifting of other restrictions of previous Executive Orders and Supplements to return to the "Stay-at-Home Phase"; and

WHEREAS, The "Safer-at-Home Phase" requires continuous guidance to be given to the public about what is restricted and permissible during this phase and while still within a "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 July 14, 2021, as many as 4,119 persons, including 32 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 Territory’s “Safer-at-Home 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), 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 25, 2021, as amended, supplemented, renewed, and extended, do hereby ORDER:

SECTION 1. The *Twenty-First Supplemental Executive Order* issued on January 27, 2021, as amended, is further amended by striking Section 4 and Section 5 and inserting new Sections 4 and 5 as follows:

“SECTION 4. Travel Restrictions and Operations: *The following ORDERS shall remain in full force and effect so long as the Territory remains in the State of Emergency declared on March 13, 2020, as amended, supplemented, extended, and renewed unless earlier lifted or until rescinded or superseded by another applicable Executive Order by the Governor of the U.S Virgin Islands:*

- A. *All travelers, by sea or by air, are required to comply with Travelers Advisory posted by the V.I. Department of Tourism and the V.I. Port Authority, including but not limited to the wearing of facial coverings, temperature scan, testing, and quarantine. Facial coverings shall be required to be worn at all times on board all public transportation ferries between all islands in or entering the Territory of the U.S. Virgin Islands.*
- B. *Every person who travels to or enters the Territory of the U.S. Virgin Islands, before boarding the aircraft or vessel, must present a COVID-19 negative PCR or antigen test result obtained within 5-days of commencement of travel to the US Virgin Islands or a Covid-19 positive Antibody test result received within four (4) months of travel to the U.S. Virgin Islands. Any person who travels to or enters the Territory of the U.S. Virgin Islands from the British Virgin Islands, before boarding the aircraft or vessel, must present a COVID-19 negative PCR or antigen test result obtained within 48 hours of commencement of travel to the US Virgin Islands uploaded through the U.S. Virgin Islands Travel Screening Portal (<https://usvitraportal.com/>) and receive final clearance through the portal to enter the U.S. Virgin Islands.*

This travel restriction currently applies to passengers age 5 years and older. Every person covered under this section shall be responsible for all associated costs, including transportation, lodging, food, and medical care.

- C. *These travel restrictions apply fully to all travelers, including U.S.V.I. residents, traveling to or through the Territory from any port of embarkation outside of the Territory, regardless of destination outside of the Territory.*

SECTION 5. Marine Restrictions and Operations: *The following ORDERS shall remain in full force and effect so long as the Territory remains in the State of Emergency declared on March 13, 2020, as amended, supplemented, extended, and renewed unless earlier lifted or until rescinded or superseded by another applicable Executive Order by the Governor of the U.S Virgin Islands:*

- A. *Temporary Mooring and Anchoring: (a) the Commissioner of the Department of Planning and Natural Resources (“DPNR”) is authorized and directed, pursuant to Title 25, Chapter 16 of the Virgin Islands Code, to designate additional temporary areas within the USVI for temporary mooring and anchoring for 30 days or until the Emergency Declaration is lifted. Such temporary mooring and anchoring areas shall be subject to the following conditions and requirements:*
- 1) *each vessel obtaining a mooring or anchoring permit under the provisions of Title 25 VIC Sec. 404 and 405;*
 - 2) *each vessel complying with all applicable laws of the Virgin Islands and the terms of all applicable provisions of all Executive Orders related to the State of Emergency for the COVID-19 Pandemic.*
- B. *In addition to the “DPNR TO ENFORCE NEW ANCHORING GUIDELINES” issued on July 28, 2020, by the Department of Planning and Natural Resources, the following shall apply to all vessels in the Territory of the U.S. Virgin Islands:*
- 1) *There shall be NO rafting (vessels tying up together) of vessels at any time in any of the bays or anchorages of the Territory, and such vessels must maintain at least twelve (12) feet between vessels at all times, unless as a result of a medical emergency.*
 - 2) *No vessels shall anchor in designated swim zones.*
- C. *Marine personnel and vessels of The West Indian Company Limited and Virgin Islands Port Authority are deputized and directed to assist DPNR and VIPD in the patrol of the territorial waters.*
- D. *Any vessel entering the territorial waters of the U.S. Virgin Islands is required to, prior to stopping anywhere in the U.S. Virgin Islands:*
- 1) *Immediately report to one of the Approved Marine Terminals for the Covid-19 Screening Clearance and show proof of compliance with the requirements of Section 4 of this Order by presenting the travel clearance for each person on board*

(email with green QR-code) from the Travel Screening Portal. The Approved Marine Terminals for Covid-19 Screening Clearance are the following:

- i. Victor William Sewer Marine Facility ("The Creek"), Cruz Bay, St. John.*
- ii. Edward Wilmoth Blyden IV Marine Terminal, Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas.*

2) Report to the DOH, via the DPNR or the Virgin Islands Police Department ("VIPD"), the list of and any health issues of passengers and crew on board such vessel, on the forms prescribed by the DOH.

- E. Any violation of this section shall result in a fine of up to \$500 per passenger, including up to \$10,000 per vessel per incident and possible seizure of the vessel by the Government of the U.S. Virgin Islands and violators will be subject to all applicable civil and criminal penalties under Virgin Islands and federal laws.*
- F. No marina in the U.S. Virgin Islands can accept a vessel coming from outside of the territorial waters of the U.S. Virgin Islands prior to the vessel's compliance with this Order and all applicable federal and local laws. Any marina found to violate this subsection shall be fined up to \$1,000 per incident.*
- G. There shall be no marine or boating events in the Territory of the U.S. Virgin Islands unless prior written authorization has been obtained from the VIPD, DPNR, and DOH."*

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 Christiansted, St. Croix, Virgin Islands, this 15th day of July, A.D., 2021.




Albert Bryan Jr.
Governor

ATTEST:

Tregenza A. Roach
Lt. Governor