

LEGISLATIVE HOME NOW ON THE HORIZON FOR THE BIG ISLAND

Date : August 17, 2018

ST. CROIX- Senate President Myron D. Jackson and Vice-President Nereida Rivera-O'Reilly announced early today that a new site for the Legislature on St. Croix has been procured.

"We are excited to have a place to call home, our central and senatorial staff have worked in two separate locations far longer than we anticipated," said Vice-President O'Reilly.

Shortly after Hurricane Maria's passage, an active search began for a temporary legislative home to meet the needs of the general public.

The Legislature of the Virgin Islands currently operates out of two offices in Christiansted; 1108 King Street and #36-C Strand Street. "Immediately following the hurricanes, we began to explore our options for relocation. We attempted to reach out to the Office of the Governor for assistance. Upon being turned down, our efforts led us to the two properties we have been operating out of since January."

"When I took office at the beginning of this term, I made a statement regarding the welfare of the employees of this Institution. It did not sit well with the local media and members of our community. I made a commitment to improving the standard of health, and quality of life for our employees on St. Croix, St. John and St. Thomas."

"I am reminded of the many locations of the Legislature we leased on Contentment Road and most recently at the Lagoon Street Complex. "It pained us greatly to have to move out of Frederiksted after Hurricane Maria," he added.

Senate President Jackson noted the ongoing discussions pertaining to the impact of mold, and severe flooding conditions, and sewage issues in Frederiksted. The Members of the 32nd Legislature agreed that it was time to deal with it rather than deferring it to the next Body.

“We are looking forward to new beginnings at our new location, where people can come to the institution and be proud of not just the Senate, but what the building signifies for the community of St. Croix,” O’Reilly concluded.

This has been a long, frustrating road, said Jackson. “We are pleased to announce today that we have secured a safe, habitable working environment for our Staff and look forward to our continued productivity as the First Branch of Government,” concluded Senate President Jackson.

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