



Legislature of the Virgin Islands

Office of Senator Kenneth L. Gittens

Capitol Building, Charlotte Amalie, VI 00804 • 3022 Golden Rock, Christiansted, VI 00820

Kenneth L. Gittens
Senate Majority Leader

COMMITTEES

Homeland Security,
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Whole

Member

TO: The Honorable Ray Fonseca
The Honorable Angel Bolques, Jr.
The Honorable Dwayne M. DeGraff
The Honorable Alma Francis-Heyliger
The Honorable Javan E. James, Sr.
The Honorable Franklin D. Johnson

FROM: Senator Kenneth L. Gittens 
Chairman, Committee on Homeland Security, Justice and Public Safety

DATED: November 8, 2023

RE: **REVISED** COMMITTEE HEARING AGENDA
Scheduled Hearing - 10:00 a.m., Thursday, November 9, 2023

Please be advised that the 35th Legislature’s Committee on Homeland Security, Justice, & Public Safety has scheduled a legislative committee hearing for 10:00 a.m., Thursday, November 9, 2023, in the Cleone H. Creque Legislative Conference Room on St. John. This is an in-person hearing.

The agenda is as follows:

BLOCK I – 10:00 a.m.

Bill 35-0175 - An Act amending Title 23 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 11, relating to emergency communications during an emergency and major disasters by adding a subchapter II establishing an Auxiliary Communications Unit within the Virgin Islands Territorial Emergency Management Agency and providing an auxiliary communications resource to any department agency and autonomous or semi-autonomous instrumentality of the Government of the Virgin Islands.

Sponsored by Senator Kenneth L. Gittens.

Invited Testifiers:

Testifier	Title	Department/Agency
Mr. Reynaldo Bess	President	St. Croix Amateur Radio Club
Mr. Fred Kleber	Manager	American Radio Relay League
Mr. Reynold St. Louis	Retired 1SG	Virgin Islands National Guard
Ms. Celia Kalousek	Board Member	Voluntary Org Active in Disaster
Mr. Steve Deblasio	Assistant Director	VITEMA

Telephone: 340-773-2424 • Fax: 340-712-2378 • Email: senatorgittens@legvi.org

“Lead By Example”

Bill 35-0086 - An Act amending Title 3, V.I.C., chapter 1, section 10h to require background checks for all IT personnel and employees of the Bureau of Information Technology, agencies that have data centers, and any employee who handles confidential information.

Sponsored by Senator Dwayne M. DeGraff.

Invited Testifiers:

Testifier	Title	Department/Agency
Mr. Rupert Ross	Director	Bureau of Information Tech
Hon. Ray Martinez	Commissioner	V.I. Police Department
Mr. Steve Deblasio	Assistant Director	VITEMA
Mr. Carlton Dowe	Executive Director	V.I. Port Authority
Mr. Andrew Smith	CEO	Water and Power Authority
Ms. Regina Petersen	Administrator	V.I. Judiciary
Mrs. Kurell Sheridan	Executive Director	V.I. Legislature
Ms. Cindy Richardson	Director	Division of Personnel

Bill 35-0131 - relating to an Act amending Title 3 V.I.C., Ch. 15 to establish a “Real Crime Center, Centralized Crime Data System within the Virgin Islands Police Department”. *Sponsored by Senator Diane Capehart.*

No Invited Testifiers

BLOCK II – 2:00 p.m.

Public Safety Update - This update intends to provide an overview of public safety and security on the island of St. John. Officials and community members have been invited to provide testimony in order to facilitate a constructive and collaborative discussion in light of recent criminal activity reported in St. John.

Invited Testifiers:

Testifier	Title	Department/Agency
Mr. Ray Martinez	Commissioner	V.I. Police Department
Ms. Sharon Coldren	Volunteer President	Coral Bay Community Council
Mr. Bob Malacarne	President	St. John Rescue
Ms. Myrtle Barry	Representative	Concerned People of the V.I.
Mr. Lawrence Ramdhansingh	President	V.I. Taxi Association

cc: All Senators
All Employees
Media