

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES VIRGIN ISLANDS

BUREAU OF CORRECTIONS

"Security, Custody, Control"

Rural Route 1, Box 9909, Kingshill, VI 00850-9715 #72 Kronprindsens Gade, Ste. 201, St. Thomas, USVI 00802 Plot #1 Negro Bay – Williams D. Roebuck Park, Frederiksted, St Croix VI 00840 Phone: STX (340) 773–6309 STT (340)-714-8300 - Fax: (340) 778-2929 – <u>https://boc.vi.gov</u>



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Dr. Kyza A. Callwood Chief Strategy Officer/Acting PIO (340) 714-8300 Kyza.callwood@boc.vi.gov <u>https://boc.vi.gov</u> Facebook: shorturl.at/fzLQ1

<u>The Virgin Islands Bureau of Corrections Announces Resumption of Under Glass,</u> <u>Non-Contact Visitation At Both Facilities</u>

St. Thomas, USVI – The Virgin Islands Bureau of Corrections ("Bureau" or "BOC") is pleased to announce the resumption of under glass, non-contact visitation at both facilities, Alexander A. Farrelly Justice Center (St. Thomas) and John A. Bell Adult Correctional Facility (St. Croix), effective December 15, 2022.

Each facility has established visiting days/hours, procedures and reserves the right to modify its visitation rules as circumstances warrant. All Visitors must wear a mask for the entire visit and comply with all Bureau Rules and Regulations governing visits and abide by the COVID-19 protocols at each facility.

Inmates/detainees whose last names begin with the letters A to L can receive visitors from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., on Saturdays and Sundays ONLY

Inmates/detainees whose last names begin with the letters *M to Z can receive visitors from 1:00* p.m., on Saturdays and Sundays ONLY

"We recognize the significance of allowing incarcerated loved ones' families and friends to interact with them. The Bureau has determined that we can safely resume in-person visitation at our facilities, as positivity rates and hospitalization rates continue to decline in the Territory", Director Wynnie Testamark said. "Since the pandemic began in March 2020, the Bureau has worked tirelessly to reduce COVID-19 at its facilities. As a result, neither a prisoner nor a detainee required hospitalization and, thankfully, none died."

The Bureau continues to offer video visitation through the VendEngine kiosks at each facility.

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"The Bryan-Roach Administration is investing in the Territory's people, infrastructure and future through transparency, stabilizing the economy, restoring trust in the government and ensuring that recovery projects are completed as quickly as possible. Visit transparency.vi.gov."