



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

**TWENTIETH 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 September 2020, 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 its "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 December 12, 2020, as many as 1,807 persons, including 23 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 November 30, 2020, as amended, supplemented, renewed, and extended, do hereby ORDER:

SECTION 1. The *Sixteenth Supplemental Executive Order issued on September 8, 2020*, as amended, supplemented, renewed, and extended, is further amended in Section 1. as follows:

- A. In subsection A. paragraph 5), by striking “distancing” and inserting “distance” in its place.
- B. In subsection C. Mass Gatherings, by inserting a new paragraph 4) to read “4) *Organized Activities – Any and all organized activities, as authorized by this subsection, as amended, supplemented, renewed, and extended, must obtain approval from the Commissioner of Health in addition to any other regulatory agency with jurisdiction, prior to the gathering.*”
- C. In subsection E. paragraph 4), by striking the language in its entirety and inserting “4) *All restaurants and any other establishments with the following alcohol licenses: Storekeeper Liquor License, Tavernkeeper-Storekeeper Liquor License, Tavernkeeper Liquor License (A), Tavernkeeper Liquor License (B), Hotelkeeper Liquor License and Club Liquor License in the Territory of the U.S. Virgin Islands shall cease the sale or distribution of alcohol from 11:00 p.m. until 8:00 a.m. daily.*” in its place
- D. By striking subsection E. paragraph 7) in its entirety.
- E. In subsection G. paragraph 1), by striking the language in its entirety and inserting “1) *Cabarets shall be allowed to open under all the same terms applicable to nightclubs in subsections 2) through 11) below.*” in its place.
- F. In subsection G. paragraphs 2) through 10) by inserting “, *cabarets,*” after “bars” and before “and nightclubs”, wherever they appear; and in paragraph 6) by capitalizing “bars”.
- G. In subsection G. by inserting a new paragraph 11), to read “11) *There shall be no dancing by*

anyone, including staff, inside or outside establishment with a bar, cabaret, or nightclub license.”

- H. In subsection N. 1) by inserting by “*through the Center Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)*” after the words “Human Services”.
- I. Notwithstanding Section 1, Subsection G of the ***Sixteenth Supplemental Executive Order issued on September 8, 2020***, as amended, supplemented, renewed, and extended and the amendments contained in Subsections F through G above, all *cabarets and nightclubs* shall close at 5:00 p.m. on December 17, 2020, and shall remain closed as long as the Territory remains in the State of Emergency, as declared on March 13, 2020, as amended, supplemented, extended, and renewed, unless earlier lifted by order of the Governor of the U.S. Virgin Islands.
- J. Notwithstanding Section 1, Subsection G of the ***Sixteenth Supplemental Executive Order issued on September 8, 2020***, as amended, supplemented, renewed, and extended and the amendments contained in Subsections F through G above, all stand alone *bars* shall be closed and cease all sales or service from December 25, 2020 through January 7, 2021. Bars shall be allowed to reopen on January 8, 2021.

SECTION 2. *Effective December 25, 2020*, The ***Sixteenth Supplemental Executive Order issued on September 8, 2020***, as amended and supplemented, is further amended in Section 3. By striking subsections A. and B. in their entirety and inserting new subsections A. and B. to read as follows:

“A. As long as the Territory remains in the State of Emergency, as declared on March 13, 2020, as amended, supplemented, extended, and renewed, unless earlier lifted by order of the Governor of the U.S. Virgin Islands, 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 test result obtained within five (5) days of commencement of travel to the U.S. Virgin Islands or a positive Covid-19 Antibody test result received within four (4) months of travel to the U.S. Virgin Islands.

B. 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.”


SECTION 3. Finding that there is a need for additional qualified nurses to provide medical services in the U.S. Virgin Islands during the State of Emergency declared on March 13, 2020, due to the COVID-19, the emergency adoption of this rule to provide for the extension of temporary licenses issued to nurses licensed in other states who may assist with this health emergency is warranted. The intent of this rule is to provide for the expedited issuance and extension of temporary licenses to qualified nurses who desire to provide health care to residents and visitors of the U.S. Virgin Islands suffering from and affected by the 2019 novel coronavirus known as COVID-19. As such, the following shall be effective immediately:

- A. All temporary licenses issued under the provisions of Title 27 V.I.C. Chapter 1, Subchapter IV and Subchapter V, by endorsement from the V.I. Board of Nursing Licensure, to qualified nurses licensed in any other State or Territory of the United States of America to assist with the response to COVID-19, shall be extended under this rule and shall expire at such time as the Governor of the U.S. Virgin Islands proclaims the termination of the Territory's public health emergency. Applicants for a temporary license may, but are not required to, apply for a permanent license.
- B. Permission for any such individual rendering service is subject to the approval of the Commissioner of Health for other medical and non-medical personnel and shall be in effect for a period of time not to exceed the duration of this emergency.

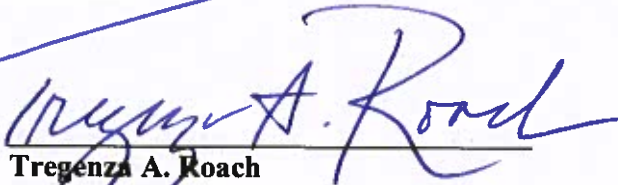
SECTION 4. Effective Date

Unless otherwise stated in the specific Sections above, this Executive Order is effective immediately and shall remain in effect so long as the Territory remains in the State of Emergency as declared on March 13, 2020, as amended, supplemented, extended, and renewed unless earlier lifted or until rescinded or superseded by another applicable Executive Order.

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 Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas, Virgin Islands, this 14th day of December, A.D., 2020.


Albert Bryan Jr.
Governor

ATTEST:


Tregenza A. Roach
Lt. Governor

