



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

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 497-2020

TO DIRECT THE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET TO PROPOSE A PLAN FOR THE REFORM OF THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH TO ACHIEVE MORE EFFICIENT, EFFECTIVE SERVICE TO THE PEOPLE OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

WHEREAS, the primary focus of the Government is to provide efficient and effective service to the people of the Virgin Islands; and

WHEREAS, the Government recognizes that the levels of bureaucracy have become overly burdensome and complex to the detriment of efficient, effective service; and

WHEREAS, it is most compelling to modernize the Territory's government by streamlining and/or consolidating processes, eliminating outdated or unnecessary requirements, utilizing all technology available, and providing better support and training for the workforce; and

WHEREAS, this Executive Order is intended to eliminate unnecessary bureaucracy and improve the overall operations of the Executive Branch by directing the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to prepare and present a plan to reform the overall functioning of the Executive Branch;

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to Section 11 and Section 16(a) and (b) of the Revised Organic Act of the Virgin Islands, as amended, which provides that the Governor shall have the power to issue executive orders not in conflict with any applicable law, and the power to examine the organization of the executive branch of the government to promote effective management, it is hereby **ORDERED** as follows:

SECTION 1: Leadership of the Transformation

The Director of the Office of Management and Budget ("Director of OMB") shall be the lead cabinet member in the creation of the government-wide reform plan. The Director of (OMB) is directed to examine the organization, structure, and functioning of the executive branch departments and agencies and to propose a plan for the reorganization and modernization of the executive branch with the input of other heads of departments and agencies.

SECTION 2: Agency Reform Plan

- a. Each head of agency shall submit an Agency Reform Plan (“ARP”) to the Director of OMB in draft form by March 31, 2020 and in final form by April 30, 2020.
- b. In preparing such ARPs, agency heads should consider such things as: whether a particular agency function or procedure is duplicative or non-essential; is the function appropriately assigned to that agency; what are the cost-benefits of retaining the program; the effectiveness and efficiency of the program; can customer service be improved through automation and modernization of agency functions; whether such changes may assist in eliminating waste or identifying areas that need more attention and or understanding. This is not an all-inclusive list.
- c. Final, approved ARPs must be submitted to the Director of OMB as an addendum to each agency’s FY 2021 budget.
- d. The Director of OMB shall submit the government-wide reform plan with the FY 2021 budget with appropriate draft Resolution by the Legislature.
- e. All departments shall engage continuous reviews of their systems and functions in implementation of the agency reform plan.

SECTION 3: Compliance with this Executive Order


- a. All Departments and Agencies within the Executive Branch shall fully cooperate with the Director of OMB in the implementation of this Executive Order.
- b. In complying with this Executive Order, the Governor, Director of OMB, as well as all other executive branch agency heads, shall comply with the terms of applicable Collective Bargaining Agreements and provide required notices to impacted employees and labor unions, if applicable.
- c. Each agency, in order to comply with this order shall immediately designate the required personnel necessary to execute this mandate.

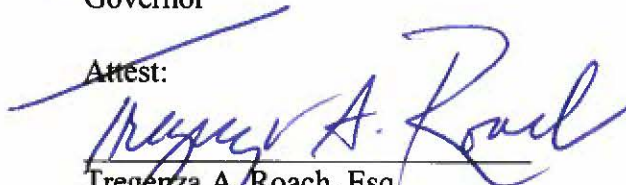
SECTION 4: Effective Date

The mandates of this Executive Order shall be effective immediately

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and cause the Seal of the Government of the Virgin Islands to be affixed at Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas, Virgin Islands this 6th day of March, A.D., 2020.




Albert Bryan Jr.
Governor

Attest:

Tregenza A. Roach, Esq.
Lieutenant Governor