GOVERNMENT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

PRESS RELEASE

Tel: (284)468-2730
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Vacancy Notice - Chairperson of the Parliamentary Commission for Standards

Release Date: 13 May, 2025



The House of Assembly of the Virgin Islands is seeking a qualified person to fill the vacancy of **Chairperson of the Parliamentary Commission for Standards.**

Role of the **Parliamentary Commission for Standards**

In accordance with Section 3 (1) of the Parliamentary Commission for Standards Act, 2024 (the "Act"), a Commission must be established under the name of "Parliamentary Commission for Standards" (the "Commission"). This Commission is to make provision for the promotion, encouraging and safeguarding high standards of conduct in the public office by members of the House of Assembly.

The primary functions of the Commission as outlined in section 16 of the Act are to:

1. receive any complaint that the conduct of a member amounts to a failure to comply with a relevant provision;
2. investigate any complaint received in accordance with the Act;
3. advise the members of the House of Assembly and members of the public on the procedures for making and investigating complaints and;
4. prepare reports on investigations conducted by the Commission for submission to the House of Assembly.

The Commission will consist of three Commissioners who are Virgin Islanders or belongers as defined by Section 65(2) and 2(2) of the Virgin Islands Constitution Order, 2007, and appointed by the House of Assembly.

Requirements for Commissioner

Section 4 (2) of the Act states that membership of the Commission should include a Chairperson, who is a retired judge or attorney at law with at least fifteen years standing, and who has practiced in the Virgin Islands or within the jurisdiction of the Organisation of the Eastern Caribbean States.

A person appointed to the Commission shall be a person of high integrity, capable of exercising competence, diligence, sound judgment and impartiality in fulfilling his or her duties pursuant to the Act.

A person shall not be qualified to be appointed as a member of the Commission if that person:

1. is a member of the House of Assembly;
2. has, at any time been a member of the House of Assembly, during the five years preceding the date of appointment, been a person in public life or otherwise exercised a public function;
3. is a member of staff of the House of Assembly, a public officer or employee assigned to the House of Assembly;
4. has, been a member of the staff of the House of Assembly at any time during the period of two years prior to the date of his or her appointment is to take effect;
5. would otherwise be disqualified, in accordance with the Constitution, to be a member of the House of Assembly;
6. has been convicted of an offence within or outside the Virgin Islands;
7. is an undischarged bankrupt or has compounded with his or her creditors;
8. is not a Belonger; or
9. has been certified by a medical practitioner to be of unsound mind.

Initial Responsibilities (within six months of appointment)

1. Assist in the formal establishment of the Parliamentary Commission to include, but not limited to, advising on, and establishing the operational procedures and protocols of the Commission.
2. Develop management strategies of the Commission, including a communication and public relations strategy, while establishing the operational legal parameters of the Commission.

Gallery



VACANCY NOTICE

CHAIRPERSON OF THE PARLIAMENTARY COMMISSION FOR STANDARDS

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2. Develop management strategies of the Commission, including a communication and public relations strategy, while establishing the operational legal parameters of the Commission.

Behavioural Competencies

1. Preside over meetings of the Commission
2. Manage time to meet the objectives of the Commission
3. Must be trustworthy and confidential
4. Remain politically impartial

Working Conditions/Environmental Factors: Normal office environment
Skills and Competencies Required: Persons expressing an interest to serve as Chairperson of the Commission should be knowledgeable, a senior Member of the Bar who meets the requirement as set out in the Act.

How to Apply:

Persons wishing to serve in this capacity are asked to submit a cover letter and resume/curriculum vitae inclusive of the following:

- Biographical information;
- Employment record;
- Educational background/qualifications;
- Previous Board experience including dates of terms;
- Police certificate; and include:
- Two References, attesting to professional experience and character, respectively

Applications should be submitted in a sealed envelope marked: **Open by Addressee Only**

to the attention of:
Mrs. Bethsaida Smith-Hanley,
Clerk of the House of Assembly
Office of the House of Assembly
Road Town, Tortola
British Virgin Islands

Applications should be hand delivered to:
Office of the House of Assembly,
First Floor, Richard C. Building,
Road Town, Tortola

or emailed to: **bvsmith@gov.vg**
by 30th June, 2025.

CLOSING DATE: 30th June, 2025

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Additional Documents or Media

- vacancy_notice_chairperson_of_parliamentary_commission_-_30jun25.pdf