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## Retirees Honoured at Annual Recognition Ceremony

Release Date: 15 June, 2026



147 public officers who retired from 2020-2022 were recently honoured at a ceremony on Saturday 23rd May, 2026 held under the theme “Planted in Service, Blooming with Honour.”

The event was chaired by Dr. Arlene T. Penn, Legal and Regulatory Analyst at the Attorney General’s Chambers, who guided the programme throughout. Retirees heard congratulatory remarks from the Deputy Governor of the Virgin Islands, Mr. David D. Archer Jr., and Deputy Director of Human Resources (Ag.), Ms. Cara Christopher. The event also featured Dr. Connie E. George, Director of the Virgin Islands Public Service Learning Institute, as guest speaker.

Deputy Governor Archer said “Our retirees represent some of the pioneers of the Public Service. Through their years of service, they helped to build strong foundations, uphold important standards and set the tone for excellence across departments and ministries. We honour their contributes and rightfully pause to celebrate them.”

Deputy Director of Human Resources, Ms. Cara Christoper (Ag.) said, “Retirement marks the close of one meaningful chapter and the beginning of another.” The Department of Human Resources remains committed to supporting officers as they prepare for and enter retirement, ensuring that transition into their new chapter is seamless, respectful and they truly feel honoured for their years of service.”

As part of the tribute, the retirees received a specially engraved crystal ornament expressing gratitude for their years of service. Attendees also paused to also recognise public officers who recently passed away. Their names are: Avril Smith-Barry (Retired 2020), Darier George (Retired 2021) and Shona Bertrand (Retired 2021).

During her featured remarks Dr. Connie E. George, said that we should honour those who retired during the COVID-19 Pandemic and reassured that their work was seen and appreciated. She also highlighted that retirement isn’t a conclusion, but simply a path to new experiences, passions and possibilities, while encouraging the retirees to continue to learn and grow while exchanging wisdom with the younger generation.

Permanent Secretary in the Office of the Deputy Governor, Mrs. Sharleen DaBreo-Lettsome, MBE offered welcoming remarks to the retirees, and Permanent Secretary in the Premier's Office, Mrs. Carolyn Soutt-Igwe spoke on behalf of Premier and Minister of Finance, Honourable Dr. Natlaio D. Wheatley.

This year's hosting of the Retiree Recognition Ceremony marks the return of the event since being paused in 2019 due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. Hosted by the Government of the Virgin Islands through the Department of Human Resources and the Employee Relations Unit, it aims to honour recent retirees from the Public Service for their dedication to the development of the Virgin Islands.

The government of the Virgin Islands remains committed to supporting retirees as they make this important transition in their life.

The retired public officers are:

1. Joycelyn Williams
2. Elliot Jackson
3. Clare Pereira
4. MacGregor J. Horne
5. Janet D. Mitchell
6. Lelia F. Burke
7. Beverly Hull - Fraser
8. Burton Richards
9. Rowan A. Pickering
10. Shirley Lettsome
11. Algernon Smith
12. Westmore Jeffers
13. Myrtle Matthias
14. Yvette Maduro
15. John Chinnery
16. Maria Maynard
17. John E. Rhymer
18. Beverly Anthony
19. Verna Hodge

20. Abigail Jones - Frank
21. Andrew Abott
22. Adrian Kartick
23. Kisha K. Donovan
24. Jacqueline Donovan
25. Donna Clyne
26. Myrna George
27. Berinice Barry
28. Marieta Headley
29. Avryl Smith- Barry
30. Joycelyn Stevens
31. Derick Ambrose
32. Ramona Cupid
33. Nicholas Tranquille
34. Wilton G. Frett
35. Alicea Skeete
36. Kishma Mills - Jones
37. Ebron E. Collins
38. Angel Vizcanio
39. Carmena Maduro
40. Janice Rymer
41. Jerrilyn E. King
42. Ivy George
43. Barbara Williams
44. Dorylin Edwards
45. Rosemarie King
46. Satya Rajmangal
47. Shona Bertrand
48. Tisha M. Scatliffe
49. Derwin Christopher
50. Merlene Harrigan-Sanderson
51. Shirley Thomas
52. Frau-Vaun Wilson-Farrington
53. Dwight Williams

54. Asley O. Meyers
55. Moses Phipps
56. Perry Smith
57. Delincia Jennings
58. Dawn Leonard
59. Helen L. Seymour
60. Birney C. Christopher
61. Dariel V. George(Cheryl James)
62. Dawn O'Neal George
63. Vernal G. Brathwaite
64. Janice A. Stoutt
65. Judith Fahie
66. Junie Jones
67. Alvin Bolton
68. Calvert Romney
69. Julio Thomas
70. Wilbert Isaac
71. Dirk Walters
72. Yvonne J. Morgan
73. Seymour R. Phillip
74. Nigel A. Dore
75. Allan G. Jones
76. Barbara Stevens - DeFreitas
77. Brenda Cline
78. Carmen Todman-Rennie
79. Charles Benjamin
80. Deborah James
81. Desmond Alfred
82. Esau Vanterpool
83. Kathleen Fahie
84. Keturah Smith
85. Marsha D. Frett
86. Mildred O'Neal
87. Mildred Walters

88. Patrice Callwood
89. Paulette Chalwell
90. Philis Vanterpool
91. Princess Malone - Dickerson
92. Ronda D. Thomas
93. Sonia Dennis
94. Yolande Baisden
95. Valenica Smith
96. Ken Pemberton
97. Orien Donovan
98. Irad M. Potter
99. Verity Joseph
100. Lorna Dawson
101. Harlan Vanterpool
102. Elgin Johnson
103. Olvin Dagou
104. Catherine Maduro
105. Michael Noel
106. Mavis D. Small
107. Lesville Wheatley
108. Cecily Smith
109. Ivor Fraser
110. Christopher Varlack
111. Irving M. Hendrickson
112. Collin Stevens
113. Elvera Smith
114. Diane Hill
115. Marjorie Fahie
116. Rodney Percell
117. Alvin F. Washington
118. Janet Barry- Richardson
119. Gertrude Thomas
120. Marsha Flemming
121. Margaret Lewis- Rogers

122. Verne Wheatley
123. Mary Chambers
124. Lenia Smith - Hodge
125. Marsha Smith
126. Shaniquah Wheatley
127. Alicia Romney
128. Allen A. Hodge
129. Ereia Smith-Forbes
130. Tyrone Smith
131. Thomas Alexander
132. Cleveland Rennals
133. Henrietta Thomas
134. Kishma Forbes
135. Cynthia Hodge
136. Joseph Smith
137. Jacinth E. Stoutt
138. Shanda Chalwell- Walters
139. Koval Cruickshank
140. Maria Smith- Callwood
141. Susan R. Gregg
142. Monique Penn
143. Jacqueline Nibbs
144. Trevor Searles
145. Roger Williams
146. Ernest Gumbs
147. Emrill C. Findlay

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## **Additional Documents or Media**

- [press release retirees honoured at annual recognition ceremony.pdf](#)