

STATEMENT

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Statement from the Acting Governor of The Virgin Islands on the 72nd Virgin Islands Emancipation Festival

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‘As the Virgin Islands community comes together to celebrate this year’s Emancipation Festival, I would like to wish everyone a safe, peaceful and joyous Festival season.

‘This is a time to honour our history, celebrate our culture, and enjoy the company of family, friends and visitors from around the world. It is one of the most important and cherished periods in our annual calendar and an opportunity to showcase the very best of our community.

‘Recent incidents of serious violence have understandably caused concern. As we come together in peace and celebration, I encourage everyone to look out for one another and remain vigilant - we all play a part in keeping our community safe.

‘If you see anything suspicious, know of criminal activity, or have information that may assist law enforcement, please report it. Information provided by members of the public can be vital in preventing crime, protecting lives and ensuring that those responsible for criminal acts are brought to justice.

‘Anyone with such information can contact the Royal Virgin Islands Police Force Intelligence Unit on 368-9512, or 999 in the event of an emergency. Information can also be provided anonymously through Crime Stoppers at 800-8477 (or, 800-TIPS).

‘We give thanks to the officers of the Royal Virgin Islands Police Force, emergency services personnel, Festival organisers, volunteers, and all those working throughout this busy period to help ensure the safety, wellbeing and enjoyment of our community.

‘Let us celebrate responsibly, respect one another, and work together to ensure that this year’s Emancipation Festival is remembered for unity and Virgin Islands’ pride.

‘I wish everyone a peaceful and successful Festival season.’

Additional Documents or Media

- [statement from the acting governor on the 72nd emancipation festival ab 1\).docx](#)