

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS**

**IN RE:**

**ORDER APPOINTING THE OFFICE OF  
THE TERRITORIAL PUBLIC  
DEFENDER TO REPRESENT PRE-  
TRIAL DETAINEES SEEKING  
COMPASSIONATE RELEASE IN  
RESPONSE TO CORONA VIRUS  
DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19)**

**SX-2020-MC-00033**

**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER**

**WHEREAS**, the Court is concerned with the outbreak of COVID-19 in detention and correctional facilities and anticipates numerous motions for compassionate release for pretrial and presentence detainees based upon the pandemic virus, therefore, **effective 12:00 A.M. on April 22, 2020**, it is hereby

**ORDERED** that the Office of the Territorial Public Defender is hereby appointed to represent any and all Defendants who are without counsel, or whose counsel is unavailable or unable to be contacted, for the sole purpose of Motions for Compassionate Release. It is further

**ORDERED** that the Office of the Territorial Public Defender in consultation with the defendant shall determine if it is appropriate to represent the defendant on any motions for pre-trial release. It is further

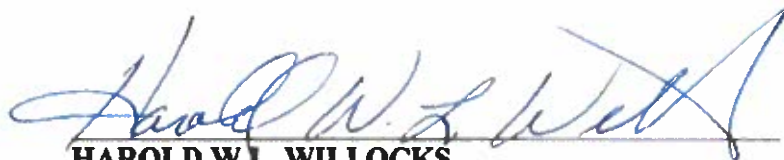
**ORDERED** that the Office of the Territorial Public Defender shall notify the Clerk of the Court immediately in the event there is a conflict of interest. It is further

**ORDERED** that the Clerk of the Court shall immediately notify the Office of the Territorial Public Defender of all pending or new pro se motions seeking compassionate pretrial release, so that the Office of the Territorial Public Defender can assume representation of the aforementioned motions in a timely manner. It is further

**ORDERED** that the Office of the Territorial Public Defender and the Department of Justice shall promptly confer about the defendant's release and when possible stipulate to the release of the Defendant and the conditions. It is further

**ORDERED** that if there is no stipulation for release, the Office of the Territorial Public Defender shall promptly notify the Court and a hearing on the motion for release may be scheduled unless the judicial officer decides the motion on the written filings.

**DONE AND SO ORDERED** this 21<sup>st</sup> day of APRIL, 2020.



**HAROLD W.L. WILLOCKS**

Presiding Judge of the Superior Court of the Virgin Islands

**ATTEST:**

**Tamara Charles,**  
Clerk of the Court

By: 

As Court Clerk Supervisor

Dated: 4/21/2020

**Copies to:**

Justices of the Supreme Court  
Judges & Magistrate Judges of the Superior Court  
Judges & Magistrate Judges of the District Court  
The Honorable Albert Bryan, Governor of the Virgin Islands  
The Honorable Novelle E. Francis, Jr., President, 33<sup>rd</sup> Legislature  
Nesha R. Christian-Hendrickson, Esq., President, V.I. Bar Association  
Hinda Carbon, Executive Director, VI. Bar Association  
Regina D. Petersen, Administrator of Courts  
Veronica J. Handy, Esq., Clerk of Supreme Court  
Tamara Charles, Clerk of the Superior Court  
Glenda L. Lake, Esq., Clerk of the District Court  
Samuel L. Joseph, Esq., Interim Chief Territorial Public Defender  
Denise N. George, Esq., Attorney General  
Judicial Branch