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**JUDICIARY MOURNS FORMER JUDGE EILEEN R. PETERSEN**



Chief Justice Hodge issues the following statement on the passing of Former Judge Eileen R. Petersen.

It is not possible to tell the story of the Virgin Islands Judiciary without discussing Judge Eileen Petersen. While she cemented her place in Virgin Islands history as the first female judge, Judge Petersen was more than just a trailblazer. During her decades-long career of judicial and other public service, Judge Petersen was never content with simply being the first woman to hold an important position, but actively sought to leave the ladder

down for other women to follow in her footsteps. She did this not just through mentorship, but through her incredible work ethic, the high quality of her opinions, and the respect and patience she showed to all those who appeared before her. She has been an inspiration to us all, and her story will continue to influence future generations of Virgin Islanders to pursue their dreams no matter what difficulties may stand in their way.

The Judiciary mourns a stalwart of Justice and extends heartfelt condolences to her family, friends and the Virgin Islands community.

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