ACT NO. 8258

BILL NO. 33-0119

THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

Regular Session

2019

An Act amending title 27, chapter 9, subchapter I, sections 303 and 304 of the Virgin Islands Code by requiring that business licenses be issued within ten business days and authorizing the Department of Licensing and Consumer Affairs to hold show cause hearings, to refuse to issue, to revoke, or to suspend business licenses when regulatory requirements have not been met

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Be it enacted by the Legislature of the Virgin Islands

SECTION 1. Title 27, chapter 9, subchapter I of the Virgin Islands Code is amended as follows:

- (a) In section 303(a):
- (1) By striking the comma after "Commission" and inserting "and the Comprehensive Coastal Zone Planning Division of the", after "Commission".
- (2) By striking "construction and site acceptability" and inserting "zoning district conformity" in its place;
 - (3) By striking "In the case of Foreign Sales Corporations,"; and
- (4) By inserting "ten (10) business days of the receipt of the application or within" after "within" where it appears in the last sentence, and by inserting "after an expedited license processing fee of \$200 has been paid and upon" after the phrase "three (3) business days".
- (b) In section 303:

By striking subsection (c) in its entirety and inserting a new subsection (c) to read as follows:

- "(c) The Commissioner shall not issue a license to do business to any entity that fails to present, at the time of application for the license or license renewal, a certificate from the Office of the Lieutenant Governor, Office of Corporations and Trademarks authorizing the use of its business name."
- (c) In Section 304(a), by adding paragraphs (9) through (13) to read as follows:
- "(9) Where the Virgin Islands Bureau of Internal Revenue notifies the Commissioner that an applicant has failed to file and pay all taxes, penalties and interest applicable to the business or has failed to make an agreement to pay these obligations.
- (10) Where the Office of the Lieutenant Governor, Division of Corporations and Trademarks notifies the Commissioner that an applicant has failed to request approval of its business name or has failed to pay all of its franchise taxes or has failed to make an agreement to pay the franchise taxes.
- (11) Where the Virgin Islands Police Department notifies the Commissioner that it is unable to verify the police record as stated on the application.
- (12) Where the Virgin Islands Historic Preservation Commission and the Comprehensive Coastal Zone Planning Division of the Department of Planning and Natural Resources notifies the Commissioner that the business indicated on the application is not allowed in the zoning district.
- (13) Where the Department of Health, in the case of a business, occupation, trade or profession involving food operations, notifies the Commissioner that the applicant has not satisfactorily met or is not satisfactorily meeting the requirements set by the Department of Health."
- (d) By striking section 304(j) in its entirety.

Thus passed by the Legislature of the Virgin Islands on December 19, 2019.

Witness our Hands and Seal of the Legislature of the Virgin Islands this 30 day of December, A.D., 2019.

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Novelle E. Francis, Jr.

President

Álicia V. Barnes

Legislative Secretary



Bill No. 33-0119 is hereby approved.

Witness my hand and the seal of the Government of the United States Virgin Islands at Christiansted, St. Croix, this ______ day of January, 2020 A.D.

Albert Bryan, Jr.
Governor