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RETIREMENT OF HON MICHAEL C. DUNSTON AND APPOINTMENT AS SENIOR SITTING JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

Administrator of Courts, Regina Petersen wishes to advise the public and the members of the Virgin Islands Bar Association of the retirement of the Honorable Michael C. Dunston effective September 26, 2019, and his appointment as Senior Sitting Judge of the Superior Court of the Virgin Islands, effective September 27, 2019.

Judge Dunston was first nominated to serve as Judge of the Superior Court in 2007 by Governor John P. deJongh. He was unanimously confirmed by the 26th Legislature of the Virgin Islands. Judge Dunston went on to serve as the Administrative Judge in the District of St. Thomas-St. John from January 2013 through September 2013, at which time he was re-nominated by Governor deJongh to serve a second term on the bench. He was unanimously confirmed by the 29th Legislature to continue to serve the people of the U.S. Virgin Islands not just as a judge of the Superior Court, but as the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court of the Virgin Islands during his second term of office.

Under Presiding Judge Dunston's leadership, the Superior Court created its first Five-Year Strategic Plan and established an Executive Management Committee comprised of his top-level managers responsible for the execution of day-to-day operations and for the overall improvement of court services. He also devoted great efforts in obtaining a modern Case Management System with electronic filing for the Superior Court to bring the Superior Court case processing into the modern age. In addition to presiding over established case processing goals and guidelines, Judge Dunston lead by example in the management and administration of his own full caseload, efficiently and expediently tackling perhaps some of the most complicated and high profile civil and criminal cases in the Territory.

Despite his decision to retire at the end of his term, Judge Dunston's unwavering commitment to the pursuit of justice and the ongoing work of the courts is exemplified by his willingness to continue to serve the people of the Virgin Islands as Senior Sitting Judge of the Superior Court until a successor is appointed to fill his judicial vacancy. During his continuation of service, Judge Dunston will remain assigned to all cases presently assigned to him, and may receive new case assignments consistent with the assignment practices of the Superior Court.

We congratulate him on a job well done and thank him for his continued service to the Judiciary and the People of the Virgin Islands.

For more information, contact:

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