

Image not found or type unknown

## Bryan Proclaims May 3-9 as 'Travel and Tourism Week' in U.S. Virgin Islands

Experience the USVI / **Published On May 06, 2020 07:26 PM /**

Staff Consortium **May 06, 2020**

Image not found or type unknown



**Governor Albert Bryan Jr. (left) with Commissioner of Tourism Joseph Boschulte. By. USVI Dept. of Tourism**

Governor Albert Bryan has officially proclaimed May 3-9, 2020 "Travel and Tourism Week" in the USVI, applauding the thousands of Virgin Islanders who contribute to the growth, resiliency and strength of the territory's lifeblood industry, and acknowledging the unprecedented damage inflicted upon tourism by the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) pandemic, the Dept. of Tourism has announced.

According to the D.O.T., joining in the country's annual celebration of National Travel and Tourism Week, the governor urged the travel and tourism community to "support each other and

remind the world that even through the most difficult times, this year's theme of the 'Spirit of Travel' will be a necessary and prominent component of our return to everyday life and must be supported and protected at all costs."

Heralding support for the industry that attracted two million visitors to the U.S. Virgin Islands in 2019, along with \$1.25 billion spent by those guests, Governor Bryan asked residents to join him in saluting the "great men and women" who have committed themselves to providing "excellent service" in their tourism-related activities, D.O.T. said.

The governor's proclamation noted that tourism "contributes substantially to the social and cultural well-being of our people," and recognized the industry's power to promote "intercultural understanding and appreciation of the Territory's history, geography and culture."

Travel and tourism in the United States is a \$2.6 trillion industry, and generated \$180 billion in federal, state and local tax revenues in 2019. The industry supports close to 16 million jobs throughout the country.

Tourism Commissioner Joseph Boschulte pointed out that nationally, travel and tourism are the nation's second largest service export, surpassed only by business services. One in every nine jobs in America depends on travel.

Echoing the governor's proclamation, Commissioner Boschulte stated that tourism was an essential factor in contributing to the Territory's resiliency and economic stability. "It is imperative that our product, our people and our purpose remain authentic, fresh, innovative and resilient as we prepare for the return of visitors to our shores," he said.