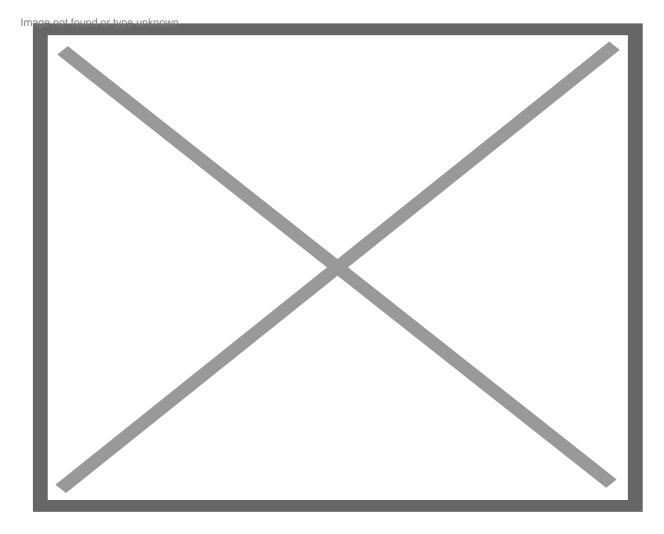
## Heavy Rain Forces Cancellation of Veterans Day Parades in St. Thomas and St. Croix

With ongoing downpours threatening safety, the V.I. Office of Veterans Affairs announces the cancellation of Veterans Day ceremonies, pledging to honor this year's honorees at a later date.

Community Center / Published On November 11, 2024 07:17 AM /

Staff Consortium November 11, 2024



Veterans Day Parade in the year 2022 in Frederiksted, St. Croix. By. V.I. CONSORTIUM

Veterans Day parades and ceremonies in the U.S. Virgin Islands, scheduled for Monday, November 11 on the islands of St. Thomas and St. Croix, have been canceled due to inclement weather, the V.I. Office of Veterans Affairs has announced. Continuous rainfall over recent hours, <u>with expectations of persistent downpours throughout the day</u>, led officials to prioritize the safety of participants, attendees, and staff by calling off the events, according to the release. The cancellation of these commemorative events reflects a difficult decision for organizers, who acknowledge the significance of honoring veterans within the community. In a statement issued by VA Director Patrick D. Farrell, officials expressed regret for any inconvenience caused by the cancellation and thanked the public for their understanding.

"The safety of all participants, attendees, and staff is our top priority," the statement read. Organizers emphasized their commitment to holding events that honor the contributions of veterans when circumstances allow.

This year's honorees, Mr. Henry A. Powell, Chief Judge Emeritus Verne A. Hodge, and Mr. Wilfred Tuitt, were set to receive formal recognition at the ceremonies. According to the announcement, these distinguished individuals will still be honored at a later date, which will be announced in due course.

The organizers extended their appreciation for the community's ongoing support and conveyed optimism for future gatherings that will properly celebrate and honor the territory's veterans.

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