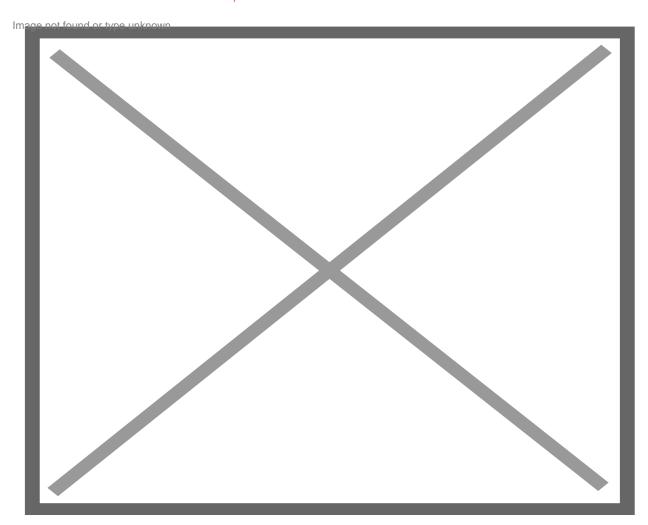
Nearly 2,000 Virgin Islanders to Receive Income Tax Refunds Just in Time for the Holidays; Post-Thanksgiving Leave Granted

Governor Bryan announces latest tax refund disbursement to residents who filed up to April 3, encouraging recipients to support local businesses this holiday season. Non-essential government employees are also granted an extra day off on November 29.

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Amidst a host of announcements during Tuesday's press briefing from Government House, Governor Albert Bryan Jr. announced the most recent payout of income tax refunds.

"That's going to be everybody who filed up to April 3, 2023," Governor Bryan said, noting that it worked out to 1,943 Virgin Islanders. Regarding the checks that will be mailed to recipients, "I

think those will be out by Thursday, so you'll be getting them over the weekend or next week," he said.

Noting that the refunds come just ahead of the traditional shopping season, he encouraged those receiving it to make sure at least some of the refunds circulate in the local economy. "Don't get on Amazon, don't go on eBay. Go down and spend some money with your local vendors so we could get that money back in their pockets," he challenged. "And also, you could get some money back in the government's coffers from the taxes that we get."

Later in the briefing, Governor Bryan announced that November 29, the Friday after Thanksgiving, will be an administrative leave day for all non-essential government employees. "I want you to reflect on our community, the richness of being a Virgin Islander, your neighbors, your colleagues," Governor Bryan said, urging those benefiting from the day off not to just use it for shopping.

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