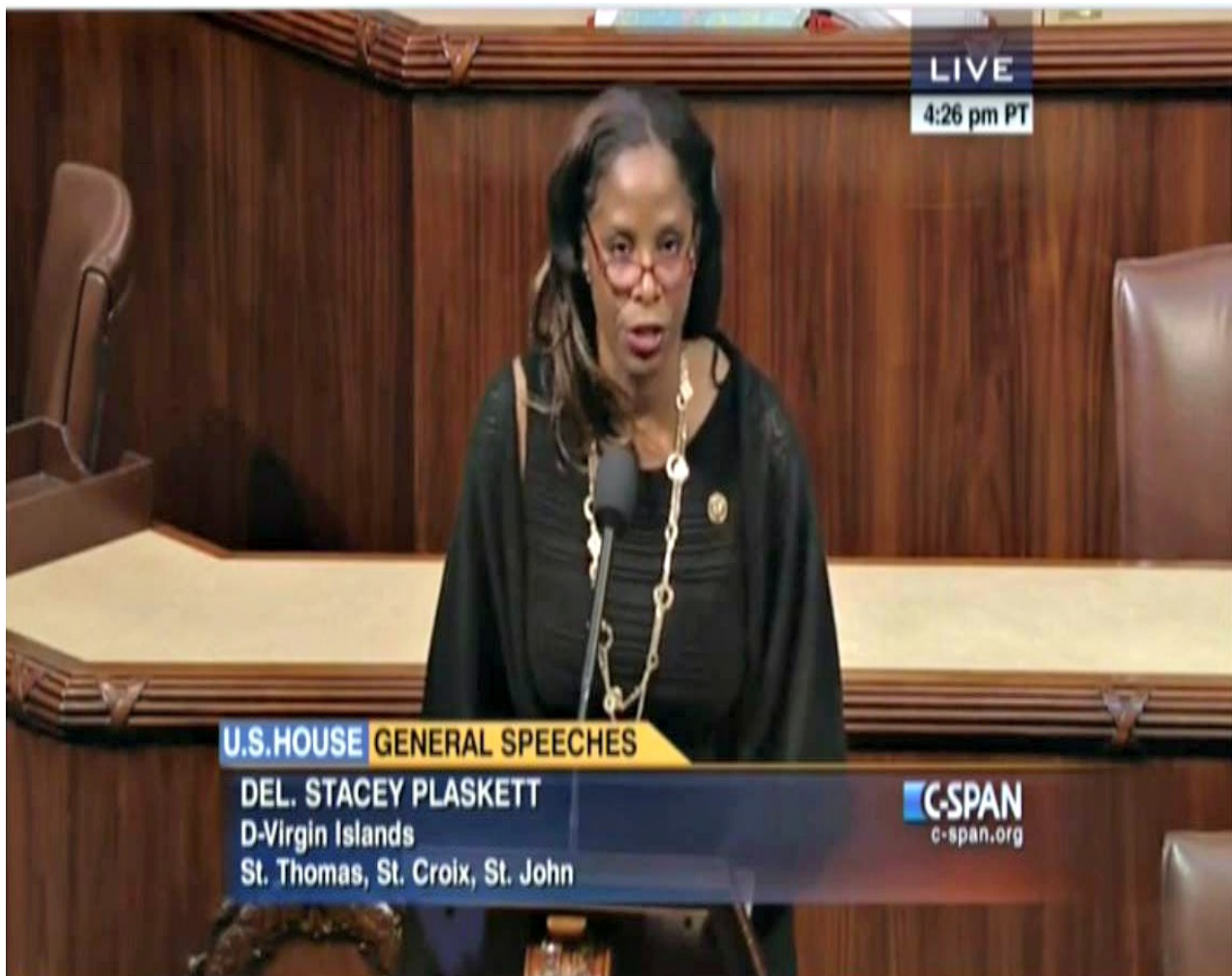


The Virgin Islands Consortium

Delegate Plaskett To Attend Meeting With Federal Officials In PR

VIC News / **Published On October 12, 2015 09:55 AM /**

Staff **October 12, 2015**



WASHINGTON, DC— Virgin Islands Congresswoman Stacey Plaskett will travel to Puerto Rico early next week to talk with federal agency officials and to better understand federal programs in the territory, a press release Plaskett's office issued on Sunday has revealed.

Plaskett said she hopes to facilitate a relationship that will lend to more efficient operation of the various programs in the Virgin Islands that are managed through regional offices in Puerto Rico and Florida.

"Our offices hear from Virgin Islanders every day requesting help with a federal program or agency. Many of these programs, however, are facilitated through offices in either Puerto Rico or Florida," the freshman congresswoman said. "This is something that, unfortunately, poses a major inconvenience to residents in the territory who may need individualized attention with a federal service or benefit. Our goal is to identify the programs and services that impact Virgin Islanders most, isolate any inefficiency, and develop ways to improve services."

Plaskett is scheduled to meet officials at the Veterans Affairs Hospital in Puerto Rico on October 13. The VA Caribbean Healthcare System provides services to a population of 150,000 Veterans in Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Congresswoman Plaskett is also scheduled to meet with Customs and Border Protection officials, as well as the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area task force (HIDTA) on October 14.

Virgin Islands Senators Novelle Francis, Justin Harrigan, and Sammuel Sanes, who will attend some of the meetings scheduled over the course of the two-day visit, will join Plaskett.