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Beginning June 8, Live Entertainment Will Be Allowed, DLCA Says

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Beginning Monday, live entertainment will be allowed in bars, clubs and restaurants until midnight, the Department of Licensing and Consumer Affairs has announced. Governor Albert Bryan had said he expected to allow clubs to operate beginning in July or August, when he intends to expand the amount of people allowed in a facility at the same time from 50 to 250.

On Friday, however, DLCA said clubs would be allowed to operate once they adhere to the latest rules — which also apply to bars and restaurants. They include the following:

- Live band or DJs shall be set up with space of ten (10) feet between the band and patrons using social distancing principles. A clear barrier between live music and patrons may be considered but is not required.

- No live bands or DJs in open public areas.
- Event centers and banquet halls must comply with mass gathering mandates of less than 50 people or 50 percent of the occupancy capacity (whichever is less).
- Restaurant, bars, and nightclubs shall post COVID-19 Guidance in a prominent place in the business establishment.

DLCA Commissioner Richard Evangelista told the Consortium that wearing masks will be mandatory in the clubs.

For a copy of the COVID-19 guidance for restaurants, bars and nightclubs, you may visit DLCA website at www.dlca.vi.gov or contact the Virgin Islands Department of Health.

Consumers or merchants with questions may contact the Consumer Affairs Division on St. Croix at 713-3522, on St. Thomas at 714-3522 , or on St. John at 693-8036.

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