

The Virgin Islands Consortium

All Eyes On St. Thomas Board Of Elections To Certify April 8 Special Election

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ST. THOMAS -- When the St. Thomas-St. John District Board of Elections [decided it would not certify the April 8 Special Election](#), a deciding factor was the Kevin Rodriguez matter, who the board contended was still a senator-elect, and that Mr. Rodriguez's fate was to first be determined by the 32nd Legislature.

[That matter has been dealt with](#); senators on Wednesday scattered Mr. Rodriguez in a 8-6 vote, with the senator-elect being rejected as a member by fellow Democrats.

It is not certain what the board, many times unpredictable, will decide. However, with law requiring that the 15th Senate seat be occupied, the board will most likely move to certify

the April 8 special election, whose winner was Janelle Sarauw.

On April 8, Ms. Sarauw won over her closest competitor, former Senator Justin Harrigan, Sr., who collected over 900 votes, while Ms. Sarauw carried her victory with over 1,200 votes. If she is seated, Ms. Sarauw will be the youngest among her peers, and is registered as an Independent. Whether or not she will side with the Minority Caucus whose members are mostly Independents, or the Democrats who cleared the likely path -- or whether Ms. Sarauw will remain independent in the true sense of the word -- remains to be seen.

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