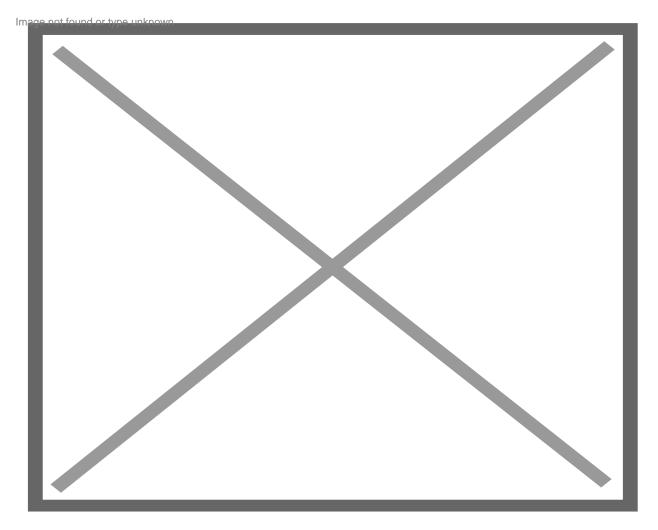
Governor Bryan, VITEMA Director Daryl Jaschen to Hold 3:00 p.m. Press Conference as Tropical Storm Grace Approaches USVI

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Government House announced Saturday that Governor Albert Bryan and VITEMA Director Daryl Jaschen will hold a press conference at 3:00 p.m. today to update residents about Tropical Storm Grace, which currently is tracking toward the territory.

According to the National Hurricane Center's 11:00 a.m. Saturday report, the center of Tropical Storm Grace was located near latitude 16.2 North, longitude 57.9 West. Grace is moving toward the west near 23 mph (37 km/h). A motion toward the west-northwest with a gradual decrease in forward speed is expected during the next several days.

On the forecast track, the center of Grace is expected to move over the Leeward Islands tonight, over the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico on Sunday, over the Dominican Republic on Monday, and then between the southeastern Bahamas and Cuba on Tuesday.

Maximum sustained winds are near 45 mph (75 km/h) with higher gusts. Some strengthening is forecast during the next day or so. Grace is likely to weaken while it moves near and across the Greater Antilles Sunday night through Monday night.

Tropical-storm-force winds extend outward up to 35 miles (55 km) from the center. The estimated minimum central pressure is 1005 mb (29.68 inches).

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