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Plaskett Announces \$45.3 Million in FEMA Grant Funding to USVI for Hurricane Maria Recovery Efforts

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Delegate to Congress Stacey Plaskett on Tuesday announced that the Federal Emergency Management Agency has awarded three grants to local government agencies in the U.S. Virgin Islands for recovery efforts after Hurricane Maria.

The grants, totaling \$45.3 million, will be awarded to the Virgin Islands Fire Service on St. John, the V.I. Department of Education on St. Croix, and the Virgin Islands Bureau of Corrections on St. Croix.

The grant awarded to the Virgin Islands Fire Service on St. John, in the amount of \$9,612,345.56, is for the replacement of a building destroyed by Hurricane Maria. The two grants awarded to the V.I. Department of Education and the V.I. Bureau of Corrections, in the amounts of

\$11,344,143.73 and \$24,343,392.20 respectively, will go towards building repairs and equipment to remediate damages that occurred as a direct result of the hurricane.

In a statement, Ms. Plaskett expressed her satisfaction with the grant awards, stating that they will allow the territory to continue building resiliency and economic prosperity.

“We must be prepared and continue to build our resiliency against disaster. The funding provided by FEMA will provide these agencies with the resources they need to rebuild more resiliently,” she said.

These grants are authorized under Section 428 of the Robert T. Stafford Act, which allows FEMA to provide financial assistance for disaster-related damages to certain public and private non-profit organizations.

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