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## Richard Evangelista Named Bryan's Chief Legal Counsel; Natalie Hodge Appointed Acting DLCA Commissioner

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### Richard Evangelista.

Governor Albert Bryan on Monday announced a reshuffling within his cabinet. Richard Evangelista, currently serving as the commissioner of the V.I. Department of Licensing and Consumer Affairs, will leave his post to serve as the governor's chief legal counsel.

Mr. Evangelista, who has helmed the DLCA since 2019, brings a rich and varied legal background to his new role, according to Government House. His two-decade-long legal practice in the Virgin Islands has included a host of leadership roles, from legal counsel for the V.I. Public Employees Relations Board to assistant commissioner and legal counsel of the Department of

Labor.

He has also held the position of senior policy Advisor to Governor John P. DeJongh, acting chief executive officer and legal counsel of the Governor Juan F. Luis Hospital & Medical Center, and served as an assistant attorney general with the V.I. Department of Justice.

With Mr. Evangelista's departure, DLCA will see H. Natalie Hodge, currently assistant commissioner, step in as acting commissioner. Governor Bryan will announce a formal nominee to head the department at a later date.

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