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BIR and Finance Send Out \$25 Million in \$1,400 Stimulus Checks

U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS — Governor Albert Bryan Jr. has announced that the Virgin Islands Bureau of Revenue (BIR) and the Virgin Islands Department of Finance have mailed out almost \$25 million in \$1,400 Stimulus Checks to 10,000 residents.

This week's distribution of \$24.9 million in federal funds from President Biden's American Rescue Plan is the first of a number of 10,000-check batches of Stimulus funds that are being sent out.

Finance and the BIR sent out the \$600 checks from the federal "CARES Act II" to 41,524 – or 92 percent – of the approximately 45,000 Virgin Islanders who filed their 2019 tax return.

"The vast majority of the remaining individuals either did not qualify because their income is too high, or they have an issue with their 2019 tax filing," Governor Bryan said during Monday's Government House weekly press briefing.

Persons who did not receive a \$600 stimulus payment and believe they meet the qualifications for eligibility, should contact the Bureau of Internal Revenue at their hotline number: 340-714-9325.

"I know that many in the public have expressed frustration with getting in contact with someone on the hotline. As you can imagine, there is an overwhelming volume of calls received daily," the Governor said during Monday's press briefing. "So, I encourage you to visit the Bureau at their offices on St. Croix in Sunny Isle and on St. Thomas in Red Hook."

The Bryan-Roach Administration is committed to transparency, stabilizing the economy, restoring trust in the government and ensuring the disaster recovery is completed as quickly as possible.

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