



GOVERNMENT OF THE U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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VIDOL Celebrates Labor and Management Awareness Month 2026 with Career, Employer, Education and Workplace Safety Events

“Protect. Improve. Employ.” Comes to Life Across the U.S. Virgin Islands This September

U.S. Virgin Islands – The Virgin Islands Department of Labor (VIDOL) proudly joins Governor Albert Bryan Jr., Lieutenant Governor Tregenza A. Roach, workers, employers, labor organizations, and community partners throughout the Territory in celebrating September 2026 as Labor and Management Awareness Month.

The month-long observance will combine celebration with action, featuring career fairs, employer engagement, customer and employee appreciation activities, labor relations programming, career-development workshops, and two new interactive occupational safety and health events designed to make workplace safety education informative, accessible, and fun.

Governor Bryan officially proclaimed September 2026 as Labor and Management Awareness Month, recognizing that a strong and resilient Virgin Islands economy depends upon a skilled, protected, adaptable, and compensated workforce and strong partnerships among workers, employers, labor organizations, government, education, and the community.

“Labor and Management Awareness Month gives us an opportunity to celebrate the people who make our economy work while also focusing on where the Virgin Islands workforce is going next,” said VIDOL Commissioner Dr. Gary A. Molloy, Ph.D. “This month is about our workers, but it is equally about opportunity, opportunities to find employment, develop new skills, understand workplace rights and responsibilities, strengthen businesses, improve workplace safety, and prepare our young people for careers that can sustain them and their families.”

Celebrating Progress While Preparing for the Future

Labor Month 2026 comes during a significant period of progress and modernization for VIDOL. Among the Department’s major accomplishments is the successful removal of the Virgin Islands Occupational Safety and Health program from federal high-risk status. The achievement reflects improvements in program oversight, accountability, federal compliance, and VIDOL’s continued commitment to safer and healthier workplaces throughout the Territory.

VIDOL is also celebrating the payoff of the Virgin Islands’ Unemployment Insurance loan, strengthening an



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essential safety net for workers and employers, while continuing its Department-wide digitization efforts and implementation of the Unemployment Insurance Tax Employer Portal, which provides employers with a secure and convenient electronic platform for managing UI tax responsibilities.

Workplace Safety Gets Interactive: VIDOSH Goes “Behind the Badge”

The Virgin Islands Division of Occupational Safety and Health (VIDOSH) is bringing workplace safety and health education directly to the community through two virtual, interactive events. **“VIDOSH: Behind the Badge”** will be held on Thursday, September 24, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. via Microsoft Teams. The VIDOSH Team will cover a variety of topics including: What happens after VIDOSH receives a workplace complaint? How does a complaint become an inspection? What are inspectors looking for? And how many commonly held beliefs about OSHA are actually true?

The interactive learning continues on Wednesday, September 30, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. via Microsoft Teams, when VIDOSH hosts OSHA Jeopardy! Participants will be invited to put their occupational safety and health knowledge to the test in a lively Jeopardy-style competition. Just as in the familiar game format, participants will receive OSHA-related answers and be challenged to identify the correct questions. Categories will cover a range of workplace safety and health topics, giving participants an entertaining way to test their knowledge, learn something new, and perhaps discover that workplace safety can be both serious and fun.

Career Opportunities Across St. Croix, St. Thomas and St. John

VIDOL will bring employment and career-development opportunities to communities Territory-wide through career fairs on St. John at Frank Powell Park on September 9; St. Thomas at UVI Administration & Conference Center on September 10; and St. Croix at the UVI Great Hall on September 16, each from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Together, the activities are designed to reach multiple parts of the workforce ecosystem, workers, job seekers, employers, young people, businesses, and the professionals who serve them. VIDOL Will also be hosting two Labor Relations Contractor focused outreach events that include information from Workers' Compensation and other compliance areas. The events will be held on September 22 on St. Croix at the UVI Great Hall and on St. Thomas at the UVI Administration & Conference Center on September 23, each 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. Dr. Shenique Rojas-Hyman will also lead a webinar titled “Careers Don’t have Labels: Women in Male-Dominated Industries” on September 29 at 12:00 pm.

An Invitation to the Virgin Islands Community

VIDOL encourages workers, employers, students, job seekers, labor organizations, educators, workforce partners, and residents throughout the Territory to participate in Labor and Management Awareness Month activities.

“Come out and engage with us,” Commissioner Dr. Molloy said. “Attend a career fair. Meet an employer. Learn about apprenticeship and training. Participate in a Labor Relations event. Join VIDOSH Behind the Badge. Challenge yourself during OSHA Jeopardy. Ask questions. Learn something new. And, most importantly, take time this month to recognize the extraordinary men and women whose work keeps the Virgin Islands moving forward.”

“Labor Month is a celebration, but it is also a call to action. Protect our workers. Improve opportunities. Employ our people. Strengthen our employers. Develop our young people. Build the talent pipeline. That is P.I.E. in action.” One Vision. One Strategy. One U.S. Virgin Islands.

For more information, please contact VIDOL at **St. Croix: (340) 773-1994 or St. Thomas: (340) 776-3700 or St. John: (340) 693-4367**. You can also visit <https://unemployment.vidol.gov/> or follow us on Facebook at facebook.com/USVIDOL for updates.



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