Government of the Virgin Islands
of the United States
Department of Licensing and Consumer Affairs

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2022
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HEMP PRODUCTS SOLD IN VIOLATION OF FEDERAL LAW IS PROHIBITED

(*U.S. Virgin Islands*) -The Department of Licensing & Consumer Affairs (DLCA) Commissioner, Richard T. Evangelista, is reminding licensed hemp retailers that they are not permitted to sell products in violation of federal law. More importantly, all unlicensed hemp retailers are urged to obtain a business license as soon as possible or prepare to receive a $500 citation for operating without a valid business license.

Unfortunately, there are some instances when minors have purchased or received from adults edible products containing CBD and Delta-8 THC. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) determined that certain food products that you market are adulterated within the meaning of section 402(a)(2)(C)(i) of the FD&C Act, 21 U.S.C. 342(a)(2)(C)(i) because they bear or contain an unsafe food additive. Additionally, some retailers throughout the Territory have introduced CBD and Delta-8 THC products for human use that are drugs based on the labeling. The FDA is not aware of any adequate and well-controlled clinical trials in the published literature that support a determination that any of the retailed products are generally recognized as safe and effective (GRASE) for use under the conditions prescribed, recommended, or suggested in their labeling.

Shortly, the Virgin Islands Department of Health (VIDOH) Division of Environmental Health and the Department of Licensing Consumer Affairs, Division of Enforcement shall commence inspecting establishments that sell hemp products to ensure the sale of items prohibited by federal law is not occurring. DLCA shall continue to educate before it regulates.

The Bryan-Roach Administration is investing in the Territory's people, infrastructure, and future through transparency, stabilizing the economy, restoring trust in the government, and ensuring that recovery projects are completed as quickly as possible. Visit transparency.vi.gov.