



News Release

Virgin Islands Port Authority
Office of the Executive Director
Public Relations Department
P.O. Box 301707
St. Thomas, VI 00803

Tel: (340) 774-1629
Tel: (340) 714-6640 / 714-6639
Fax: (340) 714-1492/ 774-0025
E-mail: info@viport.com
Internet: www.viport.com

For Immediate Release
August 29, 2010

Contact: Monifa A. Marrero
Public Information Officer
Cell: (340) 244-1065

PORT AUTHORITY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR UPDATES PUBLIC ON STATUS OF PORTS PENDING HURRICANE EARL

Virgin Islands Port Authority Executive Director Kenn Hobson wishes to update the U.S. Virgin Islands community regarding the status of the public port facilities as the agency prepares for the arrival of Hurricane Earl which is expected to impact the territory tomorrow.

AIRPORTS

Hobson said the Cyril E. King Airport on St. Thomas and the Henry E. Rohlsen Airport on St. Croix are operating as normal and will continue to operate as normal through tomorrow.

The Port Authority is the only agency authorized to open and close the territory's airports.

Hobson said that VIPA will notify the public if there are any changes in airport operation hours tomorrow.

Regarding airline cancelations, Hobson said that so far the only reported cancelations are:

- LIAT - canceled its 7:05 p.m. departure from St. Thomas today
- Spirit - canceled their flight to St. Thomas on Monday
- American Airlines - canceled flights 672 and 846 arriving from Miami on Monday

Hobson advised the public to contact their airlines directly for flight cancellation details.

(more)

SEAPORTS

All marine ports on St. Croix, St. Thomas and St. John are open as well Hobson said. The Port Authority is not authorized to close any of the public seaports in the territory; seaport closure directives are issued by the U.S. Coast Guard. The Authority will keep the territory abreast of any notifications to close the seaports. The public is advised to contact inter-island ferry and cargo companies directly for information regarding operating hours.

The following cruise lines have reported cancelations of their visits to St. Thomas:

- Enchantment of the Seas August 30th
- Carnival Dream August 31st
- Norwegian Epic September 1st

Hobson also wishes to remind the public that the Theodore Moorehead Marine Facility at Enighed Pond on St. John is **not** a designated mooring area for boats. Boaters are asked to contact the Department of Planning and Natural Resources for assistance with mooring.

EMPLOYEES

All Port Authority employees are expected to report to work at their normal reporting time tomorrow to assist with securing VIPA facilities and workstations. Non-essential employees will be dismissed at 1 p.m.

###