



News Release

Virgin Islands Port Authority
Office of the Executive Director
Public Relations Department
P.O. Box 301707
St. Thomas, VI 00803-1707

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
December 02, 2016

Contact: Monifa Marrero Brathwaite
Public Information Officer

New VIPA Marine Rates Effective January 1, 2017

Virgin Islands Port Authority Executive Director Carlton Dowe informed the public that VIPA's amended marine rate schedule will be implemented on Jan. 1, 2017. VIPA held public hearings in November on St. Thomas, St. John and St. Croix in accordance with statutory requirements whenever there is a change to its general rate structure. The hearings covered the two proposed changes to the Authority's general rate structure that were approved at its September 11 and November 16 board meetings. They are:

- An increase of docking fees from \$.60 to \$1; and
- An increase in off-site taxi pick-up rates from \$6 to \$7 at seaports.

In addition to the new fees, Dowe reminds the public of two additional fees that were changed in the tariff and were implemented on Oct. 1, 2016:

- The unified cruise ship tariff for the St. Thomas/St. John District, where cruise ships will now pay \$6.60 in port dues and \$6.80 in wharfage; increased from \$11.40 to \$13.40 overall. In addition, cruise ships once berthed in St. Croix for free since 2002, are now charged \$2.45 in port dues and \$2.55 in wharfage; totaling \$5.00.
- Water tour operators that have agreements with the cruise lines now pay \$1.50 per passenger, and those without contracts pay \$5 per passenger. (New Fee)

(more)

Dowe thanked VIPA's tenants and members of the community that attended the meetings to voice their opinions and listen to the Port Authority's justification for the rate increases. "For the most part, those people that attended expressed their appreciation of the improvements we have completed thus far. They also understood our need to increase our fees to generate additional revenues as there are still several major capital projects to be completed at all our seaports territory-wide," said Dowe. VIPA's marine tariff is available online at www.viport.com. For more information, contact VIPA's public relations office at (340) 774-1629.

We wish the community a joyous Season's Greetings on behalf of the Governing Board and the Authority.

###