

ACT NO. 8425

BILL NO. 33-0285

THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

Regular Session

2020

An Act honoring and commending Noel "Breeze" Boynes, Sr. for his service to his community of St. John and naming the car ferry dock in St. Thomas "The Noel "Breeze" Boynes, Sr. Car Ferry Dock" in his honor; and repealing Act NO. 8154

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WHEREAS, Noel "Breeze" Boynes, Sr., the eldest child of Captain Lorendon Boynes, Sr. and Estella Stagger, was born on March 4, 1938, on the Bastian Family's Estate, on the island of St. John, where he is a fourth generation St. Johnian; and

WHEREAS, he is affectionately known as "Breeze"; and

WHEREAS, he still lives by the values, morals and traditions that were instilled in him from a young age. From his mother he inherited a strong sense of family, purpose, responsibility and a love of St. John, and as a result he has been the confidant, advisor, source of strength, friend, protector and ultimate big brother to his siblings; and

WHEREAS, as education has always been important in the Boynes family, Noel Boynes began his educational journey at the Bethany Moravian School located in St. John. Then, like all students of St. John at that time, Boynes was required to relocate to St. Thomas, to complete high school, and resided with his mother's childhood friend, Mrs. Idalia Hodge. Mrs. Hodge considered him to be her adopted son, and her family became his extended family, which resulted in life-long friendships; and

WHEREAS, following his graduation from the Charlotte Amalie High School in 1956, he joined the United States Army in November of that year; and

WHEREAS, in the army he attained the rank of a Corporal for the legendary 82nd Airborne Rangers in North Carolina. His tour of duty took him to Germany as a member of the 187th Airborne Rangers; and

WHEREAS, while he was serving in the army Mr. Boynes was also recognized as an expert marksman and became part of the Military Special Rifle Firing Team, Drill Team and Firing Squad; and

WHEREAS, during 1960 he received an Honorable Discharge from the United States Army, after 26 successful jumps, two of which resulted in live action; and

WHEREAS, immediately following his discharge from the army, Corporal Boynes returned to the Virgin Islands; and

WHEREAS, when he returned to the Virgin Islands Mr. Boynes became a physical education teacher at the Julius E. Sprauve School in St. John; and

WHEREAS, while his mother instilled love of family, his father cultivated Boynes' love for the sea, and in 1962 he obtained his captain's license and began operating the ferry boats for his father and Mr. Rodney Varlack and continued operating the ferries; and

WHEREAS, in 1965 he became a member of the Virgin Islands Fire Department and was employed as a firefighter for 16 years; and

WHEREAS, because the sea was first in his heart, Mr. Boynes returned to the sea full time; and

WHEREAS, in 1961 he married Bernice Boynes, nee Mahoney. Their five children, his son-in-law, and two of his grandchildren inherited Captain's Boynes' love for the sea, and all became captains; and

WHEREAS, in 1981 Captain Boynes was fortunate to be able to combine his two loves - firefighting and seamanship; and

WHEREAS, he recognized the need to expand the family business, and along with the dedicated support of his family, he started Boyson, Inc; and

WHEREAS, over the years he provided water taxi service, fishing excursions, and seaside island tours for tourist and residents alike – with the vessels “M/Jimmy” and “M/V Cheri-B”; and

WHEREAS, he eventually expanded his vessels to include, the “General”, “General II”, “Admiral”, “Admiral II”, “Commander”, “P’ti Blue”, “Auto Transit”, “Mister B”, “Commander (IMO)” and “Li’ Mister B”, three of which Captain Boynes and his sons were instrumental in designing and building; and

WHEREAS, Captain Boynes constructed the original car ferry dock in Red Hook, and in 2008 he, along with his family, navigated the vessel “M/V Commander” across the transatlantic from Athens to the Virgin Islands; and

WHEREAS, while he realizes that he cannot change the world, he also realizes that he was, figuratively speaking, able to cast a stone across the water to create many ripples. The ripple effects of his family's ingenuity in the forming of Boyson, Inc. has been far reaching. From assisting the Fire Department with the fire on Water Island, to providing the Federal Emergency Management Agency with ongoing service during and after Hurricanes Hugo and Marilyn. Additionally, he provided emergency services to the St. John Health Center, when patient transports to St. Thomas were required; and

WHEREAS, he has given countless community donations to sponsor events during the Carnival festivities; given funds for St. John students to attend college tours; adopted the Pine Peace Basketball Court and established a scholarship fund of \$1,000 per student per year for two students committed to attending college; and

WHEREAS, Boyson, Inc. continues to be a beacon of light and hope to the people of these islands; and

WHEREAS, Captain Boynes continues to spend time with his family and enjoys creating precious memories with his nine grandchildren and eight great grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, as a man of faith, he is still a member of the Bethany Moravian Church, and also attends Our Lady of Mt. Caramel Catholic Church with his wife and children; and

WHEREAS, Captain Boynes is now the patriarch of his extended family, a role he performs with much pride. Now that he is retired, these years are celebrated with his wife either quietly at home or traveling off island. However, he is happiest when floating in the sea, especially on one of his vessels; Now, Therefore,

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the Virgin Islands:

SECTION 1. The Legislature of the Virgin Islands, on behalf of the people of the Virgin Islands, honors and commends Captain Noel "Breeze" Boynes Sr., for his dedicated service in providing sea transportation services, making it easier for tourists and residents alike to travel between St. John and St. Thomas; and for his charitable contributions; and honors and commends him by naming the car ferry dock in St. Thomas "The Noel "Breeze" Boynes, Sr. Car Ferry Dock".


SECTION 2. The Department of Public Works shall cause to be prepared a suitable sign in an appropriate location next to the barge ramp, bearing the inscription "The Noel "Breeze" Boynes, Sr. Car Ferry Dock".


SECTION 3. Act No 8154 is repealed.

Thus passed by the Legislature of the Virgin Islands on December 30, 2020.

Witness our Hands and Seal of the Legislature of the Virgin Islands this 8th day of January, A.D., 2021.




Novelle E. Francis, Jr.
President


Alicia V. Barnes
Legislative Secretary



Bill No. 33-0285 is hereby approved.

**Witness my hand and the seal of the Government of
the United States Virgin Islands at Charlotte Amalie,
St. Thomas, this 25th day of January, 2021 A.D.**



Albert Bryan Jr.

Governor