



P.O. Box 9901
St. Thomas, V.I. 00801
johnpatrickyob@gmail.com

May 14, 2024

Supervisor of Elections Caroline Fawkes
P.O. Box 1499
Kingshill, V.I. 00851
Sent via electronic mail to caroline.fawkes@vi.gov

Virgin Islands Board of Elections
P.O. Box 1499
Kingshill, V.I. 00851
Sent via electronic mail to alecia.wells@boel.vi.gov

Dear Supervisor Fawkes and honorable Members of the Board of Elections:

The Republican Party in the Virgin Islands, the Republican National Committee's officially recognized state party for the territory of the Virgin Islands, is aware of Supervisor Fawkes's testimony during a hearing of the Legislature's Committee of the Whole on May 13, 2024.

In her testimony, Supervisor Fawkes indicated that her office was not prepared to conduct a primary election to select nominees of the political parties for public offices in light of the January 2024 decision by the District Court in *Republican National Committee et al v. Virgin Islands Board of Elections et al*. Additionally, it is our understanding that Supervisor Fawkes in response to a direct question from Senator Samuel Carrion said her office would recognize the nominees of a political party selected through an alternative method administered by a political party outside the framework of the primary election.

As today is the first day that candidates may file their paperwork to qualify, the Republican Party is concerned that voters will be disenfranchised if (1) no primary election is held and (2) candidates nominated through alternative, political party-run processes are not placed on the 2024 general election ballot as the lawful and legitimate nominees of their political party.

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Accordingly, this letter shall serve as official notice that the Republican Party in the Virgin Islands is prepared to administer its own process to nominate Republican candidates for federal and territorial offices in the 2024 general election. A special meeting of the Republican State Committee is being called to officially authorize the process. Once authorized, we will inform you of the process.

Please confirm in writing by 5 p.m. on May 17, 2024, if the Republican candidates nominated by the Republican Party in the Virgin Islands through its own party-run process will appear on the 2024 general election ballot as if they had been nominated through the customary primary election. Importantly, only Republican candidates selected through this process would be allowed to appear on the 2024 general election ballot. A candidate who filed for the primary election but was not nominated by the Republican Party in the Virgin Islands through its process would not be a lawful and legitimate Republican nominee for public office.

Your response by the aforesaid deadline will ensure that any necessary actions can be taken before the filing deadline at 6 p.m. on May 21, 2024.

Thank you, and we await your response.

Sincerely,



John Yob
Chairman, Republican Party in the Virgin Islands

cc: Members of the Virgin Islands Legislature

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