

GOVERNOR'S

# WORKFORCE SUMMIT 2024

*St. Thomas* – Thursday, October 10, 2024 \* 8AM - 3PM  
Caribbean Cinemas

*Sun, Sand, and Success: Strategies for Work Excellence in the US Virgin  
Islands*

## SUMMIT AGENDA AT A GLANCE

|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| 8:00 AM – 8:45 AM   | Registration                               |
| 8:45 AM – 9:00 AM   | Welcome and a brief overview of the Summit |
| 9:00 AM – 9:30 AM   | Remarks                                    |
| 9:30 AM – 9:45 AM   | BREAK                                      |
| 9:45 AM – 10:45 AM  | Governor's Session                         |
| 10:45 AM – 11:00 AM | BREAK                                      |
| 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM | Concurrent Sessions                        |
| 12:00 PM – 12:45 PM | Lunch                                      |
| 12:45 PM – 1:15 PM  | Keynote Panel Discussion                   |
| 1:15 PM – 1:30 PM   | BREAK                                      |
| 1:30 PM – 2:30 PM   | Concurrent Sessions                        |
| 2:30 PM – 2:35 PM   | Closing Remarks                            |

## PROGRAM DETAILS

9:45 AM – 10:45 AM

GOVERNOR'S SESSION

### **Innovate and Inspire: Transforming Challenges into Opportunities**

This panel will explore how individuals, businesses, and communities can turn challenges into opportunities through innovation and inspiration. It will focus on strategies for overcoming obstacles, fostering creativity, and leveraging resources to create positive change and drive economic growth in the US Virgin Islands.

**11:00 AM – 12:00 PM CONCURRENT SESSIONS**

#### **1. Panel Discussion: The Future of Work: The Role of Remote Work in Economic Development**

This panel aims to explore the transformative impact of remote work on economic development, focusing on how businesses, governments, and communities can leverage remote work to drive sustainable economic growth, enhance workforce resilience, and create new opportunities in the digital age.

#### **2. Panel Discussion: Building AR/VR Skills in the Workforce**

This panel will focus on the growing need to develop AR/VR (Augmented Reality/Virtual Reality) skills within the workforce. It will explore the importance of these skills in the modern economy, strategies for training and education, and the role of partnerships between industry, government, and educational institutions in building a workforce proficient in AR/VR technologies.

#### **3. Panel Discussion: Navigating New Waters: The Future of Maritime Careers in the USVI**

This panel will explore the evolving landscape of maritime careers in the US Virgin Islands, focusing on the opportunities, challenges, and strategies for developing a robust maritime workforce that can thrive in the future. It will address the impact of technological advancements, environmental considerations, and global trends on maritime careers in the region.

#### **4. Panel Discussion: Skills and Training for the Blue Economy: Filling the Gap**

This panel will explore the emerging opportunities within the Blue Economy and the critical need for developing the skills and training necessary to support this sector's growth. It will focus on identifying skill gaps, designing relevant training programs, and fostering partnerships to ensure the US Virgin Islands can fully capitalize on the potential of the Blue Economy.

#### **5. Panel Discussion: Breaking Barriers: Building Pathways to Success for Returning Citizens**

This panel discussion will delve into the systemic barriers faced by returning citizens and explore innovative strategies to break these barriers, build supportive pathways to reintegration, and ensure that returning citizens have the resources and opportunities they need to succeed. The discussion will focus on the collaborative efforts of various stakeholders in creating a more equitable and inclusive society.

### **LUNCH PRESENTATION**

12:00 PM – 12:45 PM **VIDOL/Equus/Core Partners Presentation**

12:45 PM – 1:15 PM **Keynote Panel Discussion**

#### **Data-Driven Excellence: Leveraging Analytics for Strategic Workforce Development and Performance Optimization**

This panel will explore how data and analytics can be effectively utilized to develop strategic workforce initiatives and optimize performance outcomes. The discussion will focus on practical approaches to gathering, analyzing, and applying data insights to enhance workforce planning, employee engagement, and organizational success.

### **CONCURRENT SESSIONS**

1:30 PM – 2:30 PM **Concurrent Sessions**

## **1. Panel Discussion: Self-Care and Self-Development: Building a Foundation for Success and Well-Being**

This panel will explore how self-care and self-development are intertwined and essential for achieving both personal well-being and professional success. The discussion will focus on strategies for integrating self-care practices into daily life, the importance of continuous personal growth, and how individuals can cultivate a balanced and fulfilling life.

## **2. Panel Discussion: Mastering Workplace Communication: Key Strategies for Success**

This panel will explore the crucial role of effective communication in the workplace and how it impacts team dynamics, productivity, and overall organizational success. The discussion will focus on strategies for improving communication skills, fostering open dialogue, and overcoming common communication challenges within a professional setting.

## **3. Panel Discussion: Dressing for Success: The Impact of Workplace Attire on Professional Image and Career Growth**

This panel will explore the importance of workplace attire as a critical soft skill that influences professional image, career growth, and workplace culture. The discussion will focus on how dressing appropriately for the workplace can enhance credibility, build confidence, and support career advancement, as well as provide practical advice on navigating dress codes and expressing personal style within professional boundaries.

## **4. Panel Discussion: Bridging the Gap: Integrating Vocational Rehabilitation into the Workforce**

This panel will explore strategies for effectively integrating vocational rehabilitation (VR) programs into the workforce, ensuring that individuals with disabilities or barriers to employment are supported in their transition into meaningful work. The discussion will focus on collaboration between employers, VR service providers and policymakers to create inclusive work environments and pathways to sustainable employment for all.

## **5. Panel Discussion Mastering Communication for Team Success: The Soft Skills That Make a Difference**

This panel will explore how effective communication, as a vital soft skill, directly contributes to team success. The discussion will focus on enhancing communication within teams, fostering collaboration, and creating an environment where ideas can be shared openly and effectively to achieve collective goals.

2:30 PM – 2:35 PM

CLOSING REMARKS