



GOVERNMENT OF
THE VIRGIN ISLANDS OF THE UNITED STATES

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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DOL LAUNCHES NEW UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE AUTOMATED SYSTEM

Cecil R. Benjamin, Commissioner of Labor, is very pleased to announce the implementation of a new Unemployment Insurance (UI) system known as the *Virgin Islands Department of Labor Automated System (VIDOLA\$)*. This system is **one of the** fully-integrated Unemployment Insurance benefits and tax system in the United States **that** features real-time data entry and update, extensive online data validation and search capabilities, and simplified local and federal management reporting. These features allow the Division of Unemployment Insurance throughout the territory to process claims and tax information faster and with greater accuracy.

VIDOL customers will benefit from the changes resulting from the implementation of this new system. In their first visit to their local office, claimants will be able to learn if they are eligible for benefits and the amount of benefits to which they are entitled. In addition, new and current claimants will receive their benefit checks in a new check stock that features not only their continued claim, but also a check stub that the claimant can retain for their own records. Employers will receive a quarterly *Statement of Account* that combines a statement of account activity, benefits charged to the employer, and a listing of any missing wage and contribution reports as well as other revised reports. Reimbursable employers will be receiving more complete bills that identify any outstanding balances, interest and penalty payments that are due, and benefit charges that are to be reimbursed.

The Commissioner further states that “The Department of Labor, through its commitment to its mission, is proud to provide improved and timely services to the employers and workforce of the territory of the Virgin Islands with the implementation of VIDOLA\$. Furthermore we are requesting the community’s patience and support as we complete our transition to the new system.”

Commissioner Benjamin also expresses his profound appreciation to everyone who contributed, no matter how large or small, to accomplishing this long awaited, much needed and vitally important enhancement to our Unemployment Insurance program.

For further information please contact the Unemployment Insurance on St. Thomas at **340-776-3700** and on St. Croix at **340-773-1440**.