DISTRICT COURT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS DIVISION OF ST. CROIX DIVISION OF ST. THOMAS/ST. JOHN

IN RE:	OPERATIONS OF THE DISTRICT)	
	COURT IN THE ABSENCE OF AN)	
	APPROPRIATION OR CONTINUING)	
	RESOLUTION ENACTED BY THE)	Misc. No. 13-22
	UNITED STATES CONGRESS AND)	
	SIGNED BY THE PRESIDENT)	
)	

ORDER

An appropriation or continuing resolution funding the operations of the United States Courts was not passed by the United States Congress and signed by the President by midnight on September 30, 2013. Accordingly, in the absence of funding for the Courts, this Order shall govern the operations of the District Court of the Virgin Islands, and shall remain in effect until superseded by an appropriation or continuing resolution enacted by the United States Congress and signed by the President.

- 1. The dispensing of justice is mandated by the Constitution and is essential to government. The resolution of cases and controversies, which is the principal work and product of the federal courts, is integral to the administration of justice and critical to an orderly society. Accordingly, the District Court of the Virgin Islands shall remain open for the conduct of business during the absence of an appropriation or continuing resolution.
- 2. All functions, with few limited exceptions, are essential to the administration of justice by the District Court of the Virgin Islands. In view of the reductions in workforce already caused by fiscal restraints, and the minimal and mission-oriented staffing levels in the Court, all employees of the District Court of the Virgin Islands

and its units (including Judges, Magistrate Judges, chambers staff, court reporters,

and employees within the Clerk's Office and the Probation and Pretrial Services

Office) are hereby deemed to be essential in support of the Court's exercise of its

judicial powers.

3. All employees of the District Court of the Virgin Islands and its units shall report to

work for their regularly scheduled hours to continue all normal operations of the

Court, except as set forth in paragraph 4 below.

4. Travel for the District Court of the Virgin Islands, except as approved by the Chief

Judge, shall be avoided. All training activity shall be suspended. No new personnel

shall be hired, and no new expenditures of funds shall be made, without the consent

of the Chief Judge.

5. In view of the need to provide continuing judicial functioning as set forth herein, the

General Services Administration, the Federal Protective Service, and the United

States Marshal's Service are requested to maintain all functions necessary for the

continued safe use of the Courthouse facilities in the District of the Virgin Islands.

SO ORDERED.

Date: October 11, 2013

WILMA A. LEWIS

Chief Judge