



For Immediate Release

Tuesday, September 25, 2024

On Wednesday, October 22, 2024, at 2pm EST, Governor Albert Bryan Jr. will host a press conference in Government House in St. Croix to announce and unveil a historic landmark and an unprecedented regional economic development relations, and cooperation partnership with the Barbados-based, CARICOM Private Sector Organizations (CPSO) member consortium, Pleion Group Inc and its subsidiary company, Connect Caribe, a regional ferry service organization established to provide maritime transportation for the movement of people and cargo within the Caribbean for the purpose of enhanced trade and regional connectivity. The partnership is to establish St. Croix, US Virgin Islands (USVI), as the third (3rd) regional transportation hub to create a major Maritime Ferry Network of moving people and cargo throughout the Caribbean with CARICOM's member States of Barbados and Trinidad & Tobago as the two other main hubs to better connect regional economies in promoting and improving trade and commerce between the US and the Caribbean.

This press conference will formally introduce the Caribbean Americas Single Economy (CASE), "Making the CASE," a US Virgin Islands public private partnership, major public policy, and macroeconomic development initiative to ensure the USVI is more incorporated and aligned geopolitically and economically to foster trade relations. Using technology and transportation to open new markets opportunities for local USVI businesses to export throughout the region.

SEDI, Inc (SEDI-CASE), Port-St. Croix Shipyards LLC (Maintenance and Repair Drydock), Global Engagement Support Services (GESS), Water systems and Agribusiness, PetroMar (Caribe) International marine mitigation are the three (3) leading St. Croix, USVI private sector companies spearheading the PPP with the Government of the Virgin Islands (GVI) and CARICOM Private Sector Organizations (CPSO). The Caribbean Americas Single Economy (CASE) policy project initiative endeavors to diversify St. Croix and the USVI economy in Capital Markets Formation and Structure, Transportation Supply Chain Logistics and Innovation Technology Development and Integration.

With respect to this historic development, Ambassador Dr. Andre Thomas, Chairman and CEO of Pleion Group Inc. and Connect Caribe, expressed enthusiasm, stating, "We are thrilled to join hands with Governor Bryan and the principals of the Caribbean Americas Single Economy (CASE) to launch this transformative partnership that will change the face of Caribbean trade and connectivity. Establishing St. Croix as a major maritime transportation hub alongside Barbados and Trinidad & Tobago underscores our commitment to fostering regional economic integration and enhancing opportunities for growth. This strategic initiative will not only streamline the movement of people and cargo but also strengthen the region's ability to compete on the global stage, opening new doors for trade, tourism, and collaboration between the Caribbean and the United States."

About Peion Group Inc. Pleion Group Barbados is a maritime and economic development company with the purpose to provide a ferry service, e-commerce trade solutions, and agricultural development, encompassing the movement of people and cargo within the Caribbean and to see the integration of the Caribbean through a maritime corridor that facilitates the movement of people, e-commerce, agricultural development and trade within the region and with Africa and Latin America.

About Connect Caribe Connect Caribe is committed to creating a seamless maritime corridor that enhances the movement of goods and people across the Caribbean. Through innovative solutions and strategic partnerships, Connect Caribe aims to bridge travel, trade, and e-commerce, fostering economic growth and regional integration extending harmoniously to Africa.

About SEDI, Inc. SEDI, Inc, St. Croix Economic Development Initiative (SEDI) & Caribbean Americas Single Economy (CASE), a macroeconomic and public policy economic development, research and development non-profit think tank organization is based in Saint Croix, US Virgin Islands. SEDI-CASE Business Summits have been held for the past two years in key major strategic US Cities and markets, building economic bridges between USVI and the US East Coast, and in Taiwan (Asia-Pacific Region since 2018).

To learn more about SEDI-CASE:Caribbean Americas Single Economy & Port-St. Croix Shipyards Development Project and Connect Caribe, please visit www.SEDICase.com and www.connectcaribe.com . Please contact Mr. Anthony Weeks, Managing Director, at telephone number (914) 574-1213 for more details regarding this press release.