



THE USVI "BOTTOM UP" CANDIDATE PLEDGE

Putting Power, Accountability, and Governance Back in the Hands of the People

To the Inhabitants of the United States Virgin Islands:

I recognize that genuine, lasting progress in the USVI Territory cannot be dictated from the top down or outsourced to off-island consultants. The people of St. Croix, St. Thomas, St. John, and Water Island are the best qualified to identify community challenges and build actionable solutions.

By signing this pledge, I commit to the voters of the Virgin Islands that, if elected in the November General Election, I will co-sponsor, champion, and vote in favor of the following citizen-led initiatives:

1. Structural Energy Reform & Member-Owned Power

- **Restructure WAPA:** End the cycle of emergency bailouts by unbundling utility operations into separate generation and distribution entities.
- **Establish the Territorial Energy Authority (TEA):** Transition power generation oversight to the TEA under a transparent, performance-driven public mandate.
- **Create Community-Owned Rural Electric Cooperatives (RECs):** Transfer distribution directly to citizen-owned electric co-ops to cut residential and commercial kWh rates, modernize the grid, scale local rooftop/community solar, and expand high-speed fiber access.

2. Passage of the Municipal Corporations Act

- **Establish Local Municipal Governance:** Support enabling legislation allowing local communities and towns to incorporate and govern their immediate municipal affairs.
- **Local Control Over Local Infrastructure:** Give island and municipal districts the dedicated authority and direct budget accountability to tackle everyday infrastructure—from fixing local roads and potholes to neighborhood sanitation, streetlights, and zoning—without waiting for territorial bureaucratic approval.



3. Citizen-Led Legislative Priorities

- **Bottom-Up Agenda Setting:** Commit to regular town halls and direct constituent review, treating community-authored initiatives and local civic advisory bodies as active legislative priorities.
- **Fiscal Transparency & Open Data:** Mandate open public accounting for utility revenues, federal recovery funds, and municipal apportionments.

Candidate Commitment & Signature

"I pledge to govern from the bottom up—aligning my legislative agenda with the clear, common-sense priorities of the people rather than special interests or bureaucratic inertia."

Candidate Full Name (Printed): _____

Office Sought / District: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Witness / Civic Representative: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____