

**GOVERNMENT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS
OF THE UNITED STATES**

Public Services Commission

IN RE:

TRANSPORTATION SERVICES OF	)	Docket No. 640
ST. JOHN, INC. AND VARLACK	)	Order No. <u>1</u> /2016
VENTURES, INC. RATE INVESTIGATION	)	

ORDER

WHEREAS, on May 4, 2012, Transportation Services of St. John, Inc. and Varlack Ventures, Inc. (hereinafter "Ferry Franchisees or Ferry Companies") submitted a report regarding the request and justification for an increase in fares to the Virgin Islands Public Services Commission (hereinafter "PSC" or the "Commission"), establishing Docket 601; and

WHEREAS, at the July 19, 2012, meeting the Commission appointed Attorney Dolace N. McLean as Hearing Examiner to preside over the hearings for the Ferry Franchisees' Petition for an increase in rates in Docket 601 ; and

WHEREAS, on December 21, 2012, the Ferry Franchisees and the PSC staff submitted a Stipulation of Facts regarding the matters involved in the rate investigation proceedings and the related joint recommendation to the Hearing Examiner; and

WHEREAS, on July 31, 2013, the Commission received the Final Report and Recommendations from the Hearing Examiner; and

WHEREAS, on August 15, 2013, the Commission held a special meeting in the Commission's offices on both St. Thomas and St. Croix, United States Virgin Islands; and

WHEREAS, in Order 51/2013 the Commission accepted the Hearing Examiner's report and recommendations with amendments and ordered that the Commission conduct a six (6) month review of the Ferry Companies' existing rates; and

WHEREAS, on December 16, 2014, the Virgin Islands Public Services Commission met in regular session at both its offices on St. Thomas and St. Croix, United States Virgin Islands and voted to **STAY** the selection and the appointment of a Technical Consultant and Hearing Examiner and further **STAY** a review of Docket 640 until a report is presented by the Ferry Companies, within thirty (30) days; and



WHEREAS, on February 17, 2015, the Ferry Companies submitted a report to the Commission on the impact of new fares on revenue and performance of the Ferry Boat companies and other new developments in accord with PSC Order 19/2015; and

WHEREAS, on Technical Consultant Avery Williams submitted a response to the February submission of the Ferry Companies; and

WHEREAS, the receipt and deployment of the new ferries Cruz Bay I and Red Hook I is a substantial change in circumstances; and

WHEREAS, on September 22, 2015, the Commission met in regular session at both its offices on both St. Thomas and St. Croix, United States Virgin Islands; and

WHEREAS, upon review and deliberation the Commission voted to appoint Attorney Jennifer Jones as Hearing Examiner to preside over the proceedings in Docket 640, the Ferry Companies Rate Investigation; and

NOW THEREFORE, the Commission hereby:

1. Finds that it is satisfied with the credentials of Jennifer Jones, Esq.; and
2. Appoints Attorney Jennifer Jones as Hearing Examiner to preside over the proceedings in Docket 640, the Ferry Companies Rate Investigation and all issues arising therefrom.

So Ordered.

For the Commission

Date: February 3, 2016



Johann Clendenin, Chair

