

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Division of Personnel Announces the 2024 Battle of the Agencies – Beach Edition

US Virgin Islands – The GVI Wellness Program, administered by the Division of Personnel along with the GESC Board, and the Department of Sports, Parks, and Recreation (DSPR), is hosting the 2024 Battle of the Agencies – Beach Edition. This event takes place on St. Thomas on March 23rd at John Brewers Bay and April 20th at Cramer's Park in St. Croix. The Battle of the Agencies is not just a mere competition; it's a dynamic event designed to foster wellness and camaraderie among the Government of the Virgin Islands and semi-autonomous agencies. This year's installment promises to be more exhilarating than ever, with a lineup of seven exciting activities carefully crafted to challenge participants both physically and mentally. These activities include the Morning Relay Race, Three-Legged Race; Knapsack Relay, Dizzy Bat Relay, Agency Head Challenge, Swim/Run Relay (St. Thomas Only), Kayak Relay (St. Croix Only) Water Balloon Challenge, and Obstacle Course.

The 2023 Battle of the Agency winners were the V.I. Police Department team, Armed and Dangerous (St. Thomas), and VI Housing Finance Authority (St. Croix). On March 23<sup>rd</sup>, the VIPD will defend their title against the 21 teams competing in the St. Thomas/St. John District. VIHFA will defend their title on April 20th against the 17 teams participating in the St. Croix District. This widespread participation underscores the enthusiasm and commitment of our agencies to prioritize wellness and teamwork.

With such an exciting lineup of activities and a record number of teams, the 2024 Battle of the Agencies promises to be unforgettable. We look forward to seeing all the participants showcase their skills, determination, and team spirit on the day of the competition. If you are participating or cheering us on, please note that the event starts promptly at 7:00 am. Vehicles are NOT allowed to park at the beach or adjacent to the Reichhold Center parking lot. Parking is ONLY allowed at UVI's Sports and Fitness Center, and the 13D Innovation Center (formerly Westbay Supermarket), with shuttle service available.

For inquiries about participation, registration, rosters, or event details, please contact Ladee Shanna Martin, DOP Wellness Program Coordinator, at Ladeeshanna.Martin@dop.vi.gov or 340-774-8588 ext. 5252. For any other inquiries, please contact Kirk Thomas, DSPR-STT/STJ District Administrator, at 340-774-0255 or kirk.thomas@vi.gov.

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