

VACANCY NOTICE

ASSESSORS FOR THE YOUTH COURT

The Government of the Virgin Islands is inviting qualified individuals to serve as **Assessors for the Youth Court on Tortola and Virgin Gorda.**

PANEL OF ASSESSORS

The Youth Courts Act, 2005 ("the Act") provides for the establishment of a panel of assessors to function as an integral part of the Youth Court. The goals of the Youth Court are to intervene in early anti-social, delinquent, and criminal behaviour, in order to reduce the incidence of and prevent the escalation of such behaviour.

The Youth Courts Order, 2006 makes provision for the establishment of youth courts on the islands of Tortola, Virgin Gorda, Anegada and Jost Van Dyke. Section 5(1) of the Order provides that a Youth Court should be constituted with a Magistrate and at least one assessor. Section 2(1)(d) of the Act provides for Cabinet to appoint the assessors on the recommendation of the Minister.

ROLE OF THE PANEL OF ASSESSORS

In accordance to Section 2 (3) of the Act, for the purposes of subsection (2) (1) (d), the assessors shall advise the Magistrate on:

- a) the appropriateness of a sentence to be imposed on a child or young

person before a youth court;

- b) any matter that the Magistrate may refer to the assessors in relation to the trial of a child or young person before a youth court.

IDEAL CANDIDATES SHOULD EMBODY THE FOLLOWING QUALITIES:

- a) Be willing to make a professional commitment to the Magistrate Court in carrying out its functions;
- b) Be willing to attend scheduled sittings, and actively contribute to the deliberations.
- c) Possess excellent leadership and problem-solving skills in executing roles and responsibilities;
- d) Commit to confidentiality, integrity, and good governance;
- e) Demonstrate the ability to think strategically, manage complexity and act decisively;
- f) Possess strong communication and interpersonal skills; and
- g) Exercise discretion and good judgement.

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Candidates should include social workers, members of the religious community, education psychologists, school guidance counsellors, teachers or any other member of the community that the Cabinet considers appropriate.

TERMS OF SERVICE

Applicants must reside in the Virgin Islands and meet the conditions of eligibility.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Interested persons should submit a Letter of Interest and Résumé/Curriculum Vitae to the address provided below by the closing date.

Applications should be addressed to:

**Permanent Secretary (Ag.)
Ministry of Health and Social Development
Government of the Virgin Islands
Road Town, Tortola VG1110
British Virgin Islands**

Email: ministryofhealth@gov.vg

For more information, please contact the Ministry by email or call **(284) 468-2174 /2272.**

CLOSING DATE: 31st MAY, 2024