

**OFFICE OF THE SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS**

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT**

**2007**

## **Office of the Supervisor of Elections**

In February of 2003 a new Supervisor of Elections was appointed. The Elections Office was relocated from the Central Administration Complex to its present location in the Ulric Dawson Building.

The vision of the Elections Office: To conduct free and fair elections in the Virgin Islands with integrity and without fear or favour.

Some of our functions: Conduct General Elections, By-Elections and Referendum

Maintain an accurate voters list

Continuous voters registration

Educate the public on election processes.

The Elections Office has within the past four years successfully conducted two(2) General Elections and one(1) By-Election.

After the General Election in 2003, an election petition was filed in the High Court by members of the Virgin Islands Party which resulted in a written judgement being handed down by the Hon. Pusine Judge. The Petition was dismissed.

The 2005 By-Election was held as a result of the death of a Territorial at large member. This election was conducted territory-wide.

The Elections Office was instrumental in assisting with several amendments to the Elections Act over the past four years. One of the most important amendments being the accommodation of senior citizens and persons requiring assistance to vote, voting at the advance polls.

The Elections Office saw a significant increase in the registration of new voters for the 2007 General Election. This came about as a result of the new Virgin Islands Constitution Order, 2007 which came into force on the 15 June 2007.

The new Constitution allowed persons who were not eligible to vote in previous year to do so in 2007. New voters booths, ballot boxes and carrying cases were purchased and used in the 2007 General Elections. The voters booths were particularly helpful at the polling stations as they enhanced the voting process by helping to eliminate the long lines. The aluminum ballot boxes and carrying cases added more security to the election process.

History was made when the counting of the Territorial at large votes in the 2007 elections was completed 24 hours after counting began.

The Elections Office continues to strive and presently is about to embark on its newest project, providing Voters Registration Cards to all registered voters and new voters in the

Virgin Islands. It is anticipated that this project will be implemented within the next few months. Continuous voter registration continues at the Elections Office.