# COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY, JUSTICE, AND PUBLIC SAFETY

## BILL NO. 31-0046

### Thirty-first Legislature of the Virgin Islands

#### February 17, 2015

An Act amending title 23 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 5, relating to concealed weapons establishing special requirements or concealed weapons licenses in the Virgin Islands

**PROPOSED BY:** Senator Sammuel Sanes

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the Virgin Islands:

2 **SECTION 1.** Title 23 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 5 is amended by adding a

3 section 455a to read as follows:

#### 4 "§ 455a. Application for concealed firearms license

5 (a) A resident of the Virgin Islands may apply for the issuance of a concealed 6 firearms license in accordance with this chapter by complying with this section and all 7 other application procedures of this chapter which apply to all applications for all 8 firearms licenses.

9 (b) The Commissioner may issue a license to carry a concealed firearm on or 10 about the applicant's person within the Virgin Islands for not more than one year from 11 the date of issue if the applicant:

12 (1) is a business owner; or

1 (2)is required to carry money for their business or for their employer; 2 or 3 (3) has been a victim of a violent crime; or 4 as determined by the Commissioner, has any other proper reason (4)5 for carrying a firearm; and 6 (5)the applicant is a suitable person to be so licensed under the 7 requirements of section 454 of this chapter. 8 The concealed firearms license must be in duplicate and must bear the (c) 9 name, address, description, and signature of the licensee and the reason given for desiring 10 a license. The original license must be delivered to the licensee not later than 14 days 11 after the filing of the application, and the duplicate must be preserved for at least six 12 years by the issuing authority. 13 (d) Prior to the issuance of a concealed firearms license, a check of available 14 state and federal criminal history data banks must be conducted to determine whether 15 possession of a firearm by an applicant would be a violation of state or federal law. 16 (e) The Commissioner may refuse to issue a license or cancel a concealed 17 firearms license pursuant to sections 458 and 459 of this chapter. The denial or 18 cancellation of a concealed firearms license must be accompanied by a written 19 explanation mailed to the applicant not later than 14 days after the filing of the 20 application." 21 **BILL SUMMARY** 22 This bill, in Section 1, amends title 23, chapter 5 of the Virgin Islands Code by 23 establishing guidelines for concealed weapons permits in the Virgin Islands. 24 25 26 BR15-0359/February 9, 2015/

2