COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY, JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

BILL NO. 31-0145

Thirty-first Legislature of the Virgin Islands

June 16, 2015

An Act establishing a forensic crime lab in accordance with national standards

PROPOSED BY: Senator Neville James and Novelle E. Francis, Jr.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the Virgin Islands:

SECTION 1. (a) The Department of Justice shall establish, staff, and equip a forensic crime laboratory in the Virgin Islands.

(b) The crime laboratory must be accredited by the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors (LAB), Laboratory Accreditation Board, the National Forensic Science Technology Center, or other nationally recognized accrediting organization that has requirements that are substantially equivalent to or more comprehensive than those of the Society or the Center.

SECTION 2. The forensic crime laboratory shall perform services necessary for the recognition and proper preservation, identification, and scientific analysis of evidence materials pertaining to the investigation of crimes.

BILL SUMMARY

The bill directs the Department of Justice to establish a forensic crime lab.

BR15-0623/April 29, 2015/YLT