



LEGISLATURE OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

Capitol Building P.O. Box 1690 Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas U.S. Virgin Islands 00804

**ADLAH "FONCIE"
DONASTORG**

Senator, 28th Legislature

Member, Committees on:

*Financial Services,
Infrastructure and Consumer
Affairs*

*Housing, Sports
and Veterans Affairs*

*Planning and
Environmental Protection*

July 7, 2009

The Honorable John P. de Jongh
Governor
United States Virgin Islands
Government House
St. Thomas, USVI 00802

Dear Governor de Jongh,

I write to you today to urge you to apologize to the people of the Virgin Islands for misleading them in regard to improvements made at your private residence.

On June 22 of this year, you issued a statement that there was "absolutely no truth" to allegations that public funds were spent to improvements on your private home. You have now so far acknowledged that well over \$330,000 was spent at your personal residence, however, you have yet to account for other expenditures, to include the supplemental contracts for additional work performed at your property. I still await this documentation from your Administration.

It is time that we put this matter to rest and that you come forward with all the facts at hand so that we may move ahead with the people's business. This issue simply will not go away without a full accounting and investigation. I urge you to fully comply with the Legislature's official inquiry and subpoenas.

Further, in April of 2008 the Public Finance Authority notified Commissioner of Property & Procurement Lynn Millin that funds had been "reprogrammed" for the "Security Booth & Road Improvements at the Governor's Residence" under Act No. 6917. On further research, I learned that Act 6917 did not specifically allow for improvements to your property, but for design and repair of our roads. I have attached both of these documents for your reference.

I disagree with your self-serving interpretation of the law in this matter and even if you are somehow able justify the spending on your property from a legal perspective, how can you justify it from a moral perspective?

As I previously stated, as our Chief Executive you are entitled to some basic security measures at your residence, but have you become so out of touch with your constituency that you can't acknowledge that the amount expended at your home is excessive? Where do we draw the line when it comes to such spending? In my opinion, the line has clearly been crossed and evidence strongly suggests an abuse of public funds. It remains unconscionable that you continue to insist on justifying these actions and your partial acknowledgement of what has taken place is simply unacceptable.

Again, I urge you to immediately apologize to the people of the Virgin Islands for abusing their trust and misusing their tax dollars.

Sincerely,

Adlah "Foncie" Donastorg