2013 EDC Beneficiary Summit

The VIEDA's Economic Development Commission (EDC) hosted the “Virgin Islands Economic Development Commission Beneficiary Summit 2013” on August 13 at Divi Carina Bay Resort on St. Croix, and on August 15 at Frenchman's Reef & Morning Star Marriott Beach Resort on St. Thomas from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Focusing on the theme of "Maintaining Ideal Conditions for Growth", the purpose of the summit was to exchange information from V.I. officials on the requirements related to the EDC Program, help EDC beneficiaries to better understand the program's rules and regulations, and receive input from these beneficiaries on how the EDC program can be improved.

The keynote speaker is the Honorable John P. deJongh, Jr., Governor of the U.S. Virgin Islands. Other officials on the program include the Honorable Gregory R. Francis, Lt. Governor and the Honorable Shawn-Michael Malone, President of the 30th Legislature of the USVI.

Other speakers will include representatives from the V.I. Department of Licensing and Consumer Affairs, V.I. Bureau of Internal Revenue, U.S. Customs Service, Divisions of the Office of the Lieutenant Governor, the University of the Virgin Islands, the V.I. Department of Labor and the Board of Education.

The summit also included representatives of EDC Beneficiaries along with representatives from various industry sectors that assist EDC beneficiaries to grow and succeed.

-Images: Courtesy of the Office of the Governor
Anthony Weekes (right), host of the television show VIEDA: Focus on the Marketplace, interviews USVI Lt. Governor Gregory R. Francis.
USVI Lt. Governor Gregory R. Francis addresses attendees of the EDC summit on St. Thomas.
V.I. Senator Terrence (Positive) Nelson (center) shares comments at the EDC summit on St. Thomas.
(L to R) Panelists Horace Graham, assistant director of the V.I. Dept. of Licensing and Consumer Affairs; Margarita A. Benjamin, EDC Director of Applications and panel moderator Gregory R. Francis, USVI Lt. Governor, at the EDC Summit on St. Thomas.