

ACT NO. 7858

BILL NO. 31-0071

THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

Regular Session

2016

An Act amending title 33 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 89, section 2549 relating to penalties for improperly conducting tax and public sewer system user fee auctions

---0---

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the Virgin Islands:

SECTION 1. Title 33 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 89, subchapter III, section 2549 is amended as follows:

(a) by designating the current language as subsection (a); and

(b) by adding subsections (b), (c), (d) and (e) to read:

“(b) Any person who knowingly and willfully violates subsection (a), commits a felony.

(c) (1) For purposes of this subsection “Manipulation” means to knowingly, willfully, skillfully, or in a controlling manner falsify, conceal, or cover up by trick, scheme, or device a material fact;

(2) to make any false or fraudulent statement, illegitimate bid, or false representation in obtaining any real or personal property.

(d) Any person or who participates in the manipulation of an auction conducted under this chapter to fraudulently restrict other potential bidders from making legitimate bids on any property offered at any auction under this chapter shall be imprisoned not more than three years and fined not more than \$20,000, or both.

(e) Neither the Lieutenant Governor nor any other person may make any regulatory or procedural changes that have the result of limiting the rights and benefits that a property owner is entitled to under this chapter or having the result of violating the constitutional due process rights of the property owner, or defrauding the property owner, or defeating or restricting legitimated bidders or bids.”

Thus passed by the Legislature of the Virgin Islands on March 30, 2016.

Witness our Hands and Seal of the Legislature of the Virgin Islands this 8th Day of April, AD., 2016.



Neville James

Neville James
President

Myron D. Jackson

Myron D. Jackson
Legislative Secretary



Bill No. 31-0071 is hereby approved.

**Witness my hand and the Seal of the
Government of the United States
Virgin Islands at Charlotte Amalie,
St. Thomas, this 22nd day of April, 2016 A.D.**

Kenneth E. Mapp

**Kenneth E. Mapp
Governor**