**Davis Speech [EZ Speech No. 16466]**

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Remarks by Mr. Dave Davis in support of the candidacy of Albert Bryan, Jr., for the office of Governor of the U.S. Virgin Islands.

ladies and gentlemen . . . fellow virgin islanders:

it is both a privilege and a pleasure for me to address you this [morning/afternoon/evening] and i have BUT a single purpose in imposing upon your time TODAY. and that purpose is to tell you, in the plainest language I can, why i believe that albert bryan, jr., is — without any question or doubt — the very best and most qualified man to serve as the next governor of the u.s. virgin islands.

so without further ado, and with THANKS AND a tip of the hat to the writers of the old david letterman show, LET ME PRESENT FOR YOU my top-ten list of why you should vote for my friend, albert bryan, jr., for governor.

**number one:** albert bryan is one of the most honest and ethical people i’ve ever known. his integrity is unques-tioned, and his TRACK RECORD in the MANY public and private posts he’s held IS UNBLEMISHED.

**number two:** albert bryan, jr., has deep and abiding love for the place of his birth. He was born on st. thomas and grew up there, he came of age on st. croix and spent his entire adult life there. he’s built a home on st. croix, was married on st. croix, and raised his children on st. croix WITH HIS WIFE OF [NO.] YEARS, THE BEAUTIFUL [NAME OF HIS WIFE]. but it’s equally true that st. thomas has remained his second home, if you would, and he contin-ues HAPPILY TO maintain ‘dual citizenship’ in both places, remaining closely in touch to the issues and concerns on the minds of THE citizenS THROUGHOUT these bejeweled islands.

**number three:** albert bryan, jr., is the most unaffected, down-to-earth PERSON i’ve ever known. not in the least bit high-falutin, albert is truly a man of the people, equally at ease in a playroom full of kids as he IS iN A BOARDROOM working with the movers and shakers of the community.

**number four:** albert bryan, jr., wasn’t born with a silver spoon in his mouth. it was nothing but hard work and dedication to whatever jobs he undertook in his career that’s enabled him to elevate himself and his family to the modestly comfortable standard of living they now enjoy. he’s worked hard for everything he’s earned, and because of this, he’s remained wonderfully grounded and not in the least bit self-centered. he’s a common man with uncommon abilities, who’s never lost touch with his roots here in his native land.

**number five:** albert bryan, jr., was without a doubt the most effective and most productive labor commissioner the islands have ever known, a post he served in for [no.] years. in fact, no labor commissioner in the islands’ history had such a memorably successful tenure as albert bryan had — despite his taking the job of commissioner during perhaps the worst economic downturn in modern history. he was aN EXTREMELY prudent AND CONSERVATIVE steward of his commission’s budget, and even with some pretty severe economic constraints, he was able to accomplish many great things IN THAT POST.

**number six:** he was responsible for the most summer students ever employed in a single summer HERE IN THE ISLANDS. he oversaw the disbursement of more unem-ployment benefits to our citizens than any other commissioner had, and this during a period of true economic depression. he secured an eight million dollar grant for HOVENSA [spell this out, please] to help train and sustain laid-off workers. He streamlined the organization of the labor department, making its services easier for citizens to understand and ACCESS. i think it’s safe to say that no other labor commissioner had such a memorable tenure in that post as albert bryan, jr., did.

**NUMBER SEVEN:** ALBERT BRYAN, JR., WAS ONE OF THE MOVING FORCES IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE HUGELY POPULAR CAREER-DOT-V.I. WEBSITE, WHICH CONTINUES TO LINK VIRGIN ISLANDERS TO JOB OPPORTUNITIES BOTH IN THE ISLANDS AND ON THE MAINLAND. HE WAS ALSO INSTRUMENTAL IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE YOUTHNET PROGRAM, THAT HELPS TRACK CHILDREN AT RISK FOR DROPPING OUT OF SCHOOL, AND HAS PROVED TO BE AN ENORMOUSLY USEFUL TOOL FOR EDUCATORS THROUGHOUT THE ISLANDS.

**NUMBER EIGHT:** ALBERT BRYAN, JR., IS NOT A CAREER POLITICIAN; HE’S A CAREER PUBLIC SERVANT. HE’S SPENT A LIFETIME IN COMMUNITY SERVICE AND ORGANIZATIONAL MANAGEMENT, IN BOTH THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS. WHILE HE’S STILL A COMPARATIVELY YOUNG MAN AT 49 YEARS OF AGE, HE’S ALREADY ACRUED MORE RELEVANT EXPERIENCE IN PUBLIC AFFAIRS THAN HAVE MANY OF HIS OPPONENTS IN THIS RACE.

**NUMBER NINE:** ALBERT BRYANT, JR., IS VERY MUCH HIS OWN MAN, AND OWES ALLEGIANCE TO NO ONE — NO PERSON, NO ORGANIZATION, AND NO SPECIAL INTEREST. YES, HE DID SERVE, AND PROUDLY, IN JOHN DELONGH’S CABINET. BUT YOU’D BE MISTAKEN IF YOU TOOK HIM FOR JUST ANOTHER DELOGNH-ITE. HIS ALLEGIANCE IS ONLY TO THE PEOPLE OF THIS TERRITORY AND TO NO ONE ELSE.

AND THE **NUMBER 10** REASON YOU SHOULD VOTE FORE ALBERT BRYAN, JR., FOR GOVERNOR NEXT NOVEMBER: IT’S HIS TIME. IT’S TIME FOR A CHANGE. IT’S TIME FOR SOMEONE WITH INTEGRITY AND COURAGE AND DEDICATION TO TAKE THE REINS OF OUR GOVERNMENT AND START MOVING OUR ECONOMY, OUR INSTITUTIONS, AND OUR PEOPLE IN A MORE POSITIVE AND HOPEFUL DIRECTION.

BEAR IN MIND THAT DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., WAS ONLY 26 YEARS OLD WHEN HE ORGANIZED THE MONGOMERY BUS BOYCOTT. JOHN F. KENNEDY AS ONLY 43 WHEN HE BECAME PRESIDENT, AND BARACK OBAMA WAS ONLY 47. AS THESE GREAT LEADERS PROVED, YOU DON’T HAVE TO BE A GRAY-BEARD TO BE AN EFFECTIVE LEADER.

I TRULY BELIEVE THAT ALBERT BRYAN, JR., IS THE ONLY CANDIDATE WITH THAT RARE COMBINATION OF EXPERIENCE, INTELLIGENCE, AND INTEGRITY, COUPLED WITH AN INNOVATIVE AGENDA OF PROGRAMS AND PROPOSALS, THAT CAN RAISE THESE ISLANDS OUT OF THE ECONOMIC QUAGMIRE WE’VE BEEN STUCK IN FOR NEARLY 20 YEARS.

SO WHEN THE NEXT GUBINATORIAL ELECTION IS AT HAND, I BEG YOU MOST URGENTLY TO VOTE, AND TO VOTE FOR ALBERT BRAYAN, JR. IT MIGHT BE THE MOST IMPORTANT VOTE YOU’LL EVER CAST.

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