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## NHI URGES DELINQUENT EMPLOYERS TO PAY CONTRIBUTIONS

Compliance Team will contact employers before legal action is taken

Road Town, Tortola, March 7, 2019 – National Health Insurance System (NHI) is urging delinquent employers to pay all outstanding NHI contributions.

The NHI Compliance team, headed by Compliance Manager Ms. Susan Daly, is currently drafting letters to delinquent employers to notify them of their outstanding balances.

To that end, Ms. Daly said, "Delinquent employers are those who have not paid contributions for three months or more. However, there are those who are referred to as 'chronic defaulters', as they may pay the outstanding contributions, but then allow another large balance to accumulate again."

She further explained, "NHI contributions are mandatory by law and are due within the first 14 days of the end of each month. The legislation empowers NHI to seek legal advice and take the necessary legal action for those chronic defaulters."

Ms. Daly said that while there are delinquent employers, there are also notable employers who pay contributions on time every month.

To that end, the compliance manager said, "They are doing the right thing to ensure their employees maintain healthcare coverage, as contributions directly impact benefits."

For employed persons, NHI premiums are assessed at 7.5% of insurable earnings, which is evenly split between the employee and employer, that is, 3.75% each.

For more information on contributions, call (284) 852-7860, email <u>info@vinhi.vg</u>, or visit the NHI office at the Social Security Board Building on Wickham's Cay I.

National Health Insurance is designed to improve health outcomes and provide financial risk protection by ensuring that every resident of the Virgin Islands will have affordable access to the health services they need.

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Notes to Editor(s): Flier is attached.

Flier Design: April Glasgow