BLD-149 March 2, 2017

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE THIRD CIRCUIT

C.A. No. **16-3912**

VICORIA VOOYS; ET AL., Petitioners

v.

MARIA BENTLY; ET AL.

(V.I. S. Ct. Civ. No. 2015-0046) (V.I. Super. Ct. Civ. No. 2005-00368)

Present: AMBRO, GREENAWAY, JR. and SCIRICA, <u>Circuit Judges</u>

Submitted are:

- (1) Petitioners' petition for a writ of certiorari;
- (2) Respondents' brief in opposition thereto; and
- (4) Petitioners' reply brief

in the above-captioned case.

Respectfully,

Clerk

MMW/EGL/nmr

Petitioners' petition for a writ of certiorari is granted. <u>See</u> 3d Cir. L.A.R. 112.1(a) (2010). Certiorari is granted on whether the Virgin Islands Supreme Court correctly or erroneously concluded that 5 V.I.C. § 547 violates the Privileges and Immunities Clause of Article IV, Section 2, of the United States Constitution and the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment. We note that respondents, in opposing certiorari, argue that this Court lacks jurisdiction to review the Virgin Islands Supreme Court's decision. Our grant of certiorari does not represent a determination that this Court has

such jurisdiction. That determination will be made by the Panel of the Court that considers this appeal on the merits. The parties are directed to address this Court's jurisdiction in their briefs.

By the Court,

s/Joseph A. Greenaway, Jr. Circuit Judge

Dated: March 23, 2017

NMR/cc: Rhea R. Lawrence, Esq.

Lee J. Rohn, Esq.

Stephen L. Braga, I, Esq. Pamela R. Tepper, Esq.