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VIRGIN ISLANDS CODE ANNOTATED  
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\*\*\* Statutes current through Act 7191 of the 2010 Regular Session \*\*\*

\*\*\* Excludes Acts 7167, 7175, 7176 \*\*\*

\*\*\* Annotations current through September 8, 2010 \*\*\*

TITLE EIGHTEEN Elections  
Chapter 13. Qualifications of Electors

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*18 V.I.C. § 263 (2010)*

**§ 263. Loss of franchise by felon; mental incompetents**

(a) Every person who has been twice convicted by a court of competent jurisdiction of a felony or of a crime involving moral turpitude shall be debarred from voting for a period of 10 years.

(b) Every person who has been convicted by a court of competent jurisdiction of a felony or of a crime involving moral turpitude shall be debarred from voting for a period of one year following the date of his discharge.

(c) No inmate of a public or private institution for the insane and no person under the care of a guardian by reason of any mental incapacity shall be entitled to vote.

**HISTORY:** --Added Feb. 20, 1963, No. 936, § 1.

**NOTES:**

**HISTORY**

**Source.**

Former Title 18 V.I.C. § 33.

**CROSS REFERENCES**

For provisions of the Organic Act relating to qualifications for the franchise, see section 4 of the Revised Organic Act of the Virgin Islands, app. July 22, 1954 (*48 U.S.C. § 1542*), which is set out preceding Title 1.

**LexisNexis 50 State Surveys, Legislation & Regulations**

Non-pardon/expungement Post-conviction Voting Rights

**ANNOTATIONS**

1. Generally. 2. Restoration of franchise.

**1. Generally.**

A person on probation or parole following conviction of a felony or crime of moral turpitude must complete the

probation or parole before he can vote. 7 *V.I.Op.A.G.* 346.

**2. Restoration of franchise.**

Since the right to vote and the right to hold public office are not synonymous but are distinguishable, subsection (b) of this section, which restored convicted felon's right to vote after his discharge from prison, did not restore his right to hold public office. *Moorhead v. Government of the Virgin Islands*, 18 *V.I.* 237, 1982 *V.I. LEXIS* 128 (*Terr. Ct. St. C.* 1982).

**HIERARCHY NOTES:**

Tit. 18 Note

Tit. 18, Ch. 13 Note