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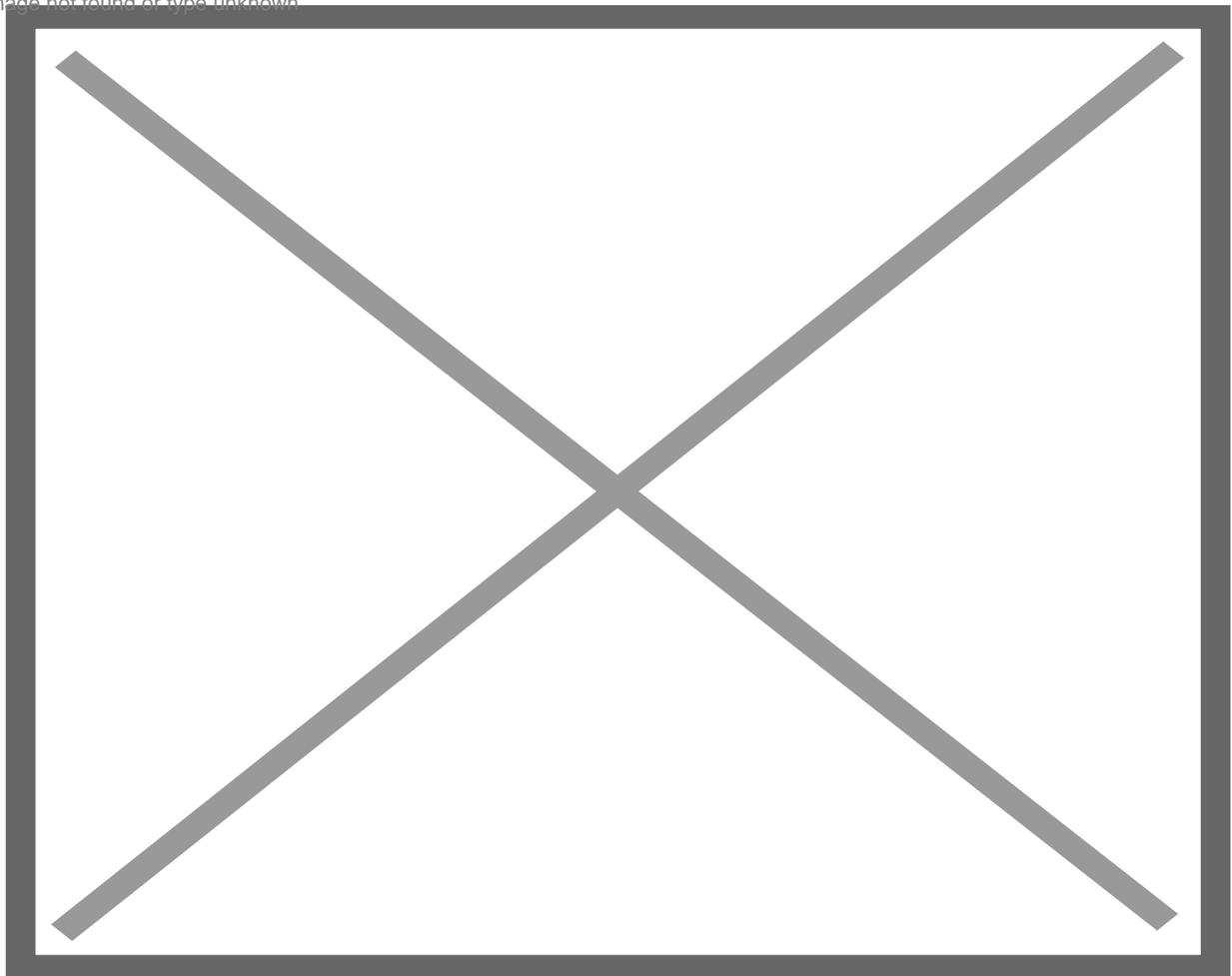
71st Annual J'Ouvert Draws Throngs to Frederiksted Streets in Cultural Extravaganza

Thousands of participants demonstrate the enduring popularity and joy of J'Ouvert celebrations

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Nelcia Charlemagne **January 05, 2024**

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2024 Jouvert celebrations on St. Croix By. V.I. CONSORTIUM

The streets of Frederiksted came alive from 6:00 a.m. on Thursday as thousands of revelers enjoyed J'Ouvert celebrations. The event, a staple on the Crucian Christmas Festival's calendar, is in its 71st year, and attracts participants from the territory, region, and mainland USA.

Spotted as Consortium cameras captured the festivities, Division of Festivals Director Ian Turnbull showered the event with praise. "We're looking good. We're looking really good," he said. Mr. Turnbull noted that he brought his young daughter along with him, hoping to introduce

her to the spectacle and lively nature of the cultural celebration.

This year's J'Ouvert concluded without any major incidents. The Virgin Islands Police Department, in an official release, emphasized that “much coordination was made to ensure adequate security was present to provide a secure event for reveling residents and visitors.”

St. Croix Police Chief Sean Santos expressed gratitude at the lack of disruption. “I was pleased to see revelers enjoying themselves throughout the Jouvert without any major hiccups. We thank everyone who came out for making this a successful Jouvert and we look forward to a successful remainder of the festival season. To the officers, thank you for your tireless dedication and commitment to serving our community,” said Chief Santos.

Despite their best efforts, VIPD noted that police officers responded to one physical altercation involving two males. Five individuals also needed to be treated for dehydration and excessive alcohol consumption.

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