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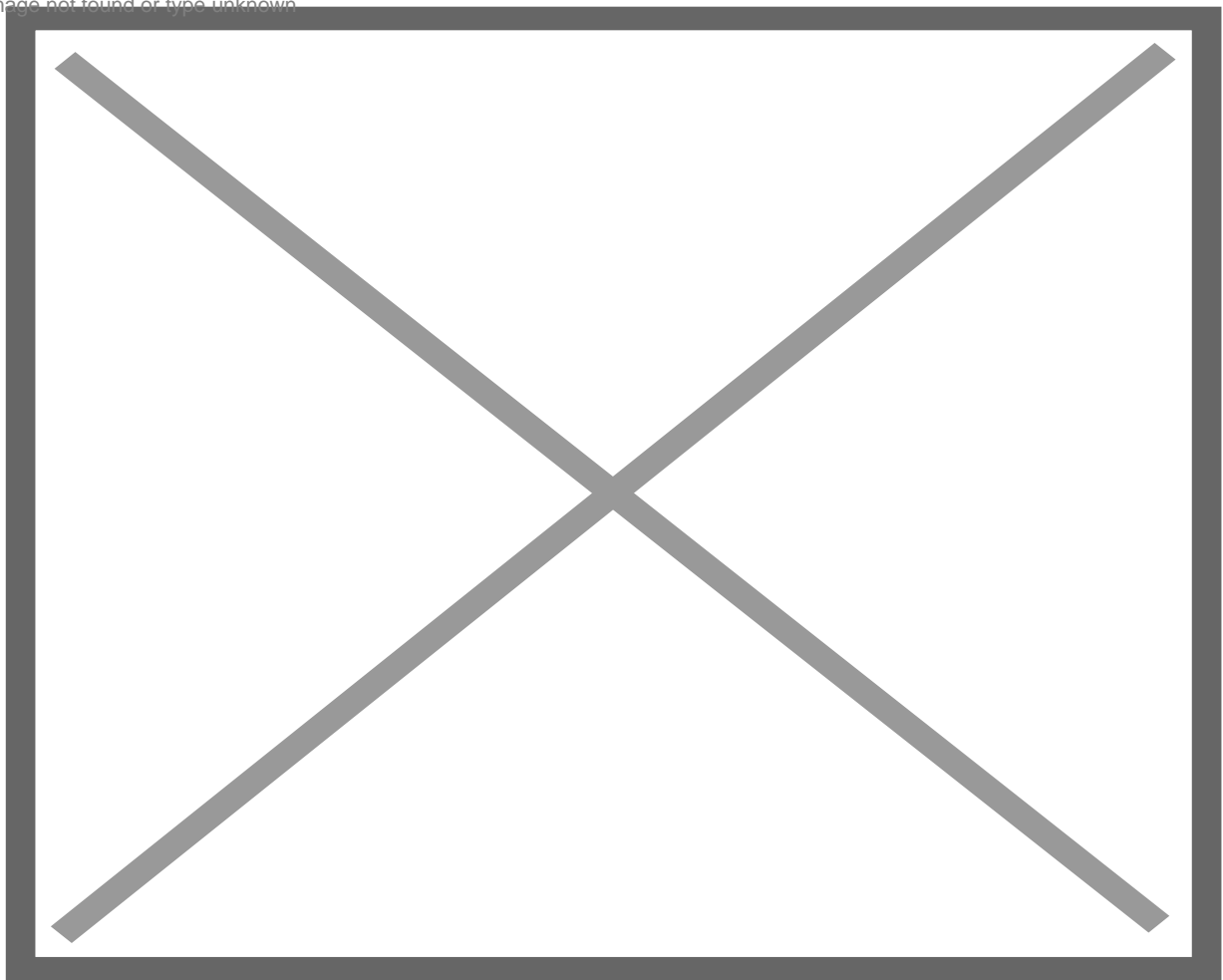
Man Sentenced to Four Years After Federal Surveillance Leads to VIPD Traffic Stop and Arrest for Cocaine Possession

VIPD finds 18 bricks of cocaine in traffic stop following federal surveillance

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Mugshot of Calis Sewer. By. THE VIRGIN ISLANDS POLICE DEPARTMENT

ST. THOMAS — In a recent announcement by United States Attorney Delia L. Smith, Calis Sewer, a 25-year-old resident of St. John, has been sentenced to four years in prison. Chief Judge Robert A. Molloy issued the sentence following Sewer's guilty plea to charges of possessing cocaine with the intent to distribute.

According to court documents, the incident leading to Sewer's arrest unfolded on March 21, 2023. Officers from the V.I. Police Department conducted a traffic stop on Sewer, who was driving a Suzuki Vitara registered under his name. During the stop, a drug detection canine signaled the presence of narcotics in the vehicle. Officers subsequently found 18 bricks of cocaine concealed inside a duffle bag in the trunk.

Before the traffic stop, federal law enforcement agents had been surveilling Sewer. They observed him walking down the Brown Bay trail, an area known for drug smuggling activities, heading towards the beach. Sewer was later seen carrying a black duffle bag as he walked up the trail. Agents continued to monitor Sewer's movements as he returned to his residence and subsequently left with the duffle bag.

The arrest occurred shortly after Sewer disembarked from the car ferry in Red Hook, St. Thomas.

This successful apprehension and subsequent conviction were the result of a collaborative effort involving the Drug Enforcement Administration, U.S. Customs and Border Protection Air and Marine Operations, U.S. Border Patrol, Homeland Security Investigation, and the V.I. Police Department. Assistant United States Attorney Kyle Payne led the prosecution of this case, resulting in Sewer's four-year sentence.