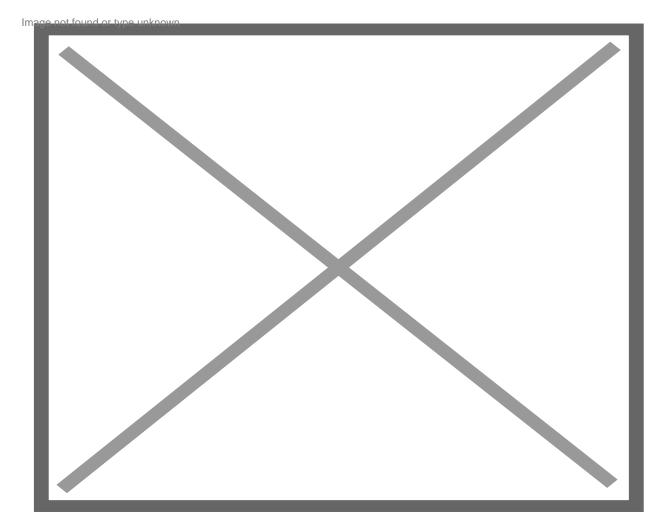
VIPD Investigating Early-Morning Heist at Home Depot on St. Thomas

Criminal Investigation Bureau steps in after trailers damaged and goods stolen

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ST. THOMAS — The Home Depot in Estate Donoe was the target of a grand larceny on Wednesday, prompting an urgent response from the V.I. Police Department's Criminal Investigation Bureau.

According to the VIPD, the 911 Emergency Call Center reported the incident after store management discovered signs of forced entry and theft.

Upon arrival at the scene, law enforcement officers were briefed by Home Depot's management and security personnel, who reported that the property was forcefully entered. The intruders managed to damage trailers and remove various items before fleeing the location.

The incident was first noted during a routine inspection at around 2:00 a.m., when everything at the rear of the building appeared to be secure. However, a subsequent inspection just a few hours later at approximately 5:00 a.m. revealed the breach and theft.

The Criminal Investigation Bureau has taken charge of the case, conducting a thorough inspection and initiating an investigation into the theft and property damage.

The VIPD is appealing to the public for any information related to the incident. Witnesses or anyone with knowledge of the crime are encouraged to come forward and contact Detective S. Rhymer at the Criminal Investigation Bureau at (340) 774-2211 extension 5572, or to report anonymously via Crime Stoppers V.I. at 1(800) 222-TIPS, or online <u>here</u>.

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