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Man Pronounced Dead After Gunshots Rattle Hospital Ground, St. Thomas; VIPD Launches Investigation

Shot spotter system alerts authorities to gunfire; victim identified as Ashton Alexander, 42, as Major Crimes Unit takes charge of the case

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Scene of the Thursday, Sept. 19, 2024 homicide in St. Thomas, USVI.

ST. THOMAS — The V.I. Police Department is investigating a homicide that occurred in the Hospital Ground area of St. Thomas on the evening of Thursday.

According to the police report, the incident, which was reported at approximately 5:37 p.m., was initially flagged by the VIPD's shot spotter detection system, alerting the 911 emergency call center to multiple gunshots in the vicinity of Prindsens Gade, commonly known as Hospital Ground.

Several concerned citizens also contacted the 911 call center, reporting the sound of gunfire and a man down in the area. Responding officers arrived at the scene and discovered an unresponsive Black male who appeared to have sustained multiple gunshot wounds. Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs) were dispatched and checked the individual for signs of life. By 5:46 p.m., EMTs confirmed that the victim had no vital signs.

The deceased was later identified by his next of kin as 42-year-old Ashton Alexander. The investigation is currently being handled by the VIPD's Major Crimes Unit, and authorities are urging anyone with information related to the case to come forward.

Residents with details that could assist in the investigation are asked to contact the Virgin Islands Police Department at (340) 774-2211, the Criminal Investigation Unit's Major Crimes Division at (340) 714-9823 or (340) 714-9829, or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477.

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