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VIPD Investigates Three Suspected Suicides in St. Croix Amid Heartfelt Tribute to Officer Janlee Cruz

The VIPD issued three press releases Sunday regarding suspected suicides, including that of VIPD officer Janlee Cruz, whose sudden passing is mourned by Government House

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Officer Janlee Cruz, who served with the VIPD's Executive Security Unit

Last updated at 4:17 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 27, 2024 (All three victims were male)

ST. CROIX — On Sunday, the V.I. Police Department issued three press releases regarding suspected suicides that occurred on St. Croix, while Government House released a statement mourning the loss of VIPD officer Janlee Cruz, one of the individuals involved.

According to the VIPD, Cruz, who served with the VIPD's Executive Security Unit at Government House, was found unresponsive in his vehicle at Salt River Marina with a gunshot wound Saturday afternoon, and his death is being investigated as a suspected suicide.

Government House expressed deep sorrow over Cruz's passing, noting his commitment to service and his positive influence among colleagues. The statement highlighted Cruz's "enthusiasm, bright smile, and readiness to serve" and extended condolences to his family and friends.



Officer Janlee Cruz

The other two suspected suicides involved a male resident at St. Croix Condominiums and another man residing in Sweet Lime Village. According to the VIPD, in the St. Croix Condominiums incident, the man was discovered unresponsive Saturday afternoon on his living room floor by his son, who alerted authorities after observing him in distress. Emergency responders confirmed his death at the scene. Jason May, general manager of St. Croix Condominiums, later clarified that the incident took place at a residence located along the road leading back to St. Croix Condominiums.

In Sweet Lime Village, the second male victim was found deceased Friday afternoon in his residence after a wellness check was requested. Responding officers and paramedics found no signs of life upon arrival.

All three incidents are under active investigation by the VIPD, with autopsies pending to officially determine the causes of death.

