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VIPD Arrests 56-Year-Old Man for Assault, Pursues Second Suspect

Jose Garcia, 56, has been arrested and charged with assault and threats following an altercation in which he allegedly attacked a man with a glass bottle and threatened to burn down his residence.

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Mugshot of Jose Garcia. By. THE VIRGIN ISLANDS POLICE DEPARTMENT

ST. CROIX — The V.I. Police Department's Criminal Investigation Bureau has arrested 56-year-old Jose Garcia, charging him with third-degree assault and disturbance of the peace/threats. His bail has been set at \$25,000, and authorities continue efforts to apprehend a second suspect linked to the incident.

According to the victim's report, the incident occurred on Monday, February 10. The victim stated that Jose Garcia stood across the street from his residence, calling out to his minor daughter. The victim noted that Garcia is an acquaintance of the child's mother, and they had no prior conflicts. However, observing that Garcia appeared intoxicated, the victim instructed his daughter not to respond.

This reportedly enraged Garcia, who then crossed the street toward the victim while holding a glass bottle, which he allegedly swung at him. Garcia also caused a loud disturbance, allegedly threatening to shoot up and burn down the victim's residence with him inside.

Garcia then made a phone call, summoning his adult son, who arrived moments later armed with a long knife. The son allegedly charged at the victim, escalating the situation further. Witnesses and video footage have confirmed the victim's account of the events.

VIPD officers are actively pursuing Garcia's son, who remains at large. Law enforcement officials urge anyone with information about this crime to assist in the investigation by contacting 911, Detective Y. LoBlack of the Criminal Investigation Bureau, or the Office of the Police Chief at (340) 774-2211. Additionally, anonymous tips can be submitted through Crime Stoppers USVI at 1-800-222-8477 or online at crimestoppersvi.org or p3tips.com.

This case remains under active investigation, and further updates will be provided as new developments arise.