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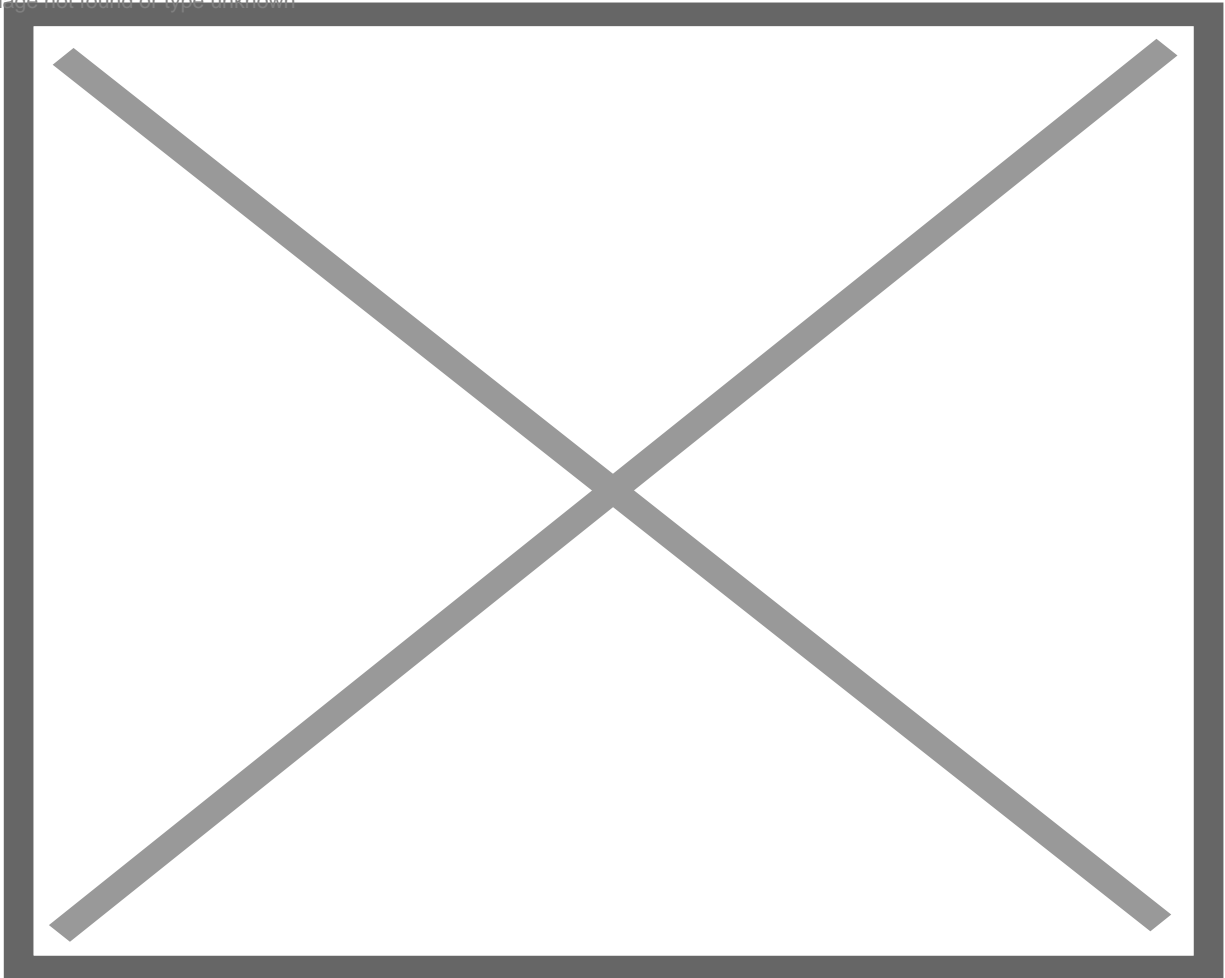
## Tip Leads to Arrest of Illegal Immigrant Arriving in St. Thomas Through Red Hook Ferry Terminal

Authorities arrested an illegal immigrant at the Red Hook Ferry Terminal after receiving a tip from HSI. The individual had arrived in St. Thomas via ferry from St. John, prompting law enforcement to take action based on the reported information.

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The Red Hook Ferry Terminal in St. Thomas.

ST. THOMAS — A Dominican Republic national has been charged with illegally re-entering the United States after previously being removed, according to a Tuesday announcement by U.S. Attorney Delia L. Smith.

The individual, identified as 33-year-old Joan Tavaréz Bueno, was apprehended on March 10 following a law enforcement stop. Authorities had received information from Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) regarding a possible non-citizen arriving in St. Thomas via ferry from St. John.

According to court documents, agents observed an individual matching Tavaréz Bueno's description exiting the Red Hook Ferry Terminal and entering a parked vehicle at the terminal. Law enforcement officials later stopped the vehicle and detained Tavaréz Bueno. A records check revealed that he was in the country illegally and had previously been removed from the United States on February 13, 2024.

If convicted, Tavaréz Bueno could face a prison sentence of up to two years.

The investigation is being conducted by Homeland Security Investigations in coordination with the National Park Service. Assistant U.S. Attorney Kyle Payne is leading the prosecution of the case.

U.S. Attorney Smith emphasized that a criminal complaint is an allegation, and that all defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.