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Young St. Croix Man Dies After Vehicle Strikes Utility Pole on Melvin Evans Highway

Police say the crash happened around 4 a.m. Saturday on Route 66's westbound lane when the vehicle veered onto the shoulder and struck a WAPA utility pole; EMTs found the driver, Phi-Jah E. Merchant, 22, showing no signs of life.

Accidents / **Published On August 23, 2025 10:00 PM /**

Staff Consortium **August 23, 2025**

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Wrecked vehicle involved in the fatal crash near Roebuck Industrial Park on St. Croix, where 22-year-old Phi-Jah Merchant lost his life after striking a utility pole on Melvin Evans Highway. By. THE VIRGIN ISLANDS POLICE DEPARTMENT.

ST. CROIX — A 22-year-old man lost his life early Saturday morning in a single-car collision on the Melvin H. Evans Highway, according to the Virgin Islands Police Department.

The VIPD's Traffic Investigation Bureau reported that the crash occurred at about 4:07 a.m. on the westbound lane of Route 66 near the William D. Roebuck Industrial Park.

Investigators said the vehicle, traveling westbound at a high rate of speed, suddenly veered left onto the road's shoulder and struck a WAPA utility pole.

Emergency Medical Technicians who arrived on the scene found no signs of life in the vehicle's operator. The driver was later identified by next of kin as Phi-Jah E. Merchant, age 22.

The case remains open and under investigation by the VIPD Traffic Investigation Bureau, St. Croix District.

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