

The Virgin Islands Consortium

DEA Seizes Over 100 Suspected Marijuana Plants From St. Thomas Property; Man Faces Federal Charges

DEA agents seized more than 100 suspected marijuana plants, including 40 recently harvested, after obtaining warrants for Kenneth Turbe's iCloud account and St. Thomas residence. He now faces conspiracy and possession-with-intent charges in federal court.

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ST. THOMAS — A 42-year-old St. Thomas man faces federal conspiracy and drug-distribution charges after Drug Enforcement Administration agents seized more than 100 suspected marijuana plants from his property, including 40 that had recently been harvested.

Kenneth Turbe was arrested July 23 and charged with conspiracy and possession with intent to distribute a controlled substance under federal law, U.S. Attorney Adam F. Sleeper announced Friday.

According to court documents, DEA agents obtained search warrants for Mr. Turbe's iCloud account and residence as part of the investigation.

Authorities said the iCloud account contained photographs of vacuum-sealed bags of marijuana, marijuana plants and large black planter pots holding marijuana plants. The account also contained images of bags of marijuana stored inside a safe.

Following Mr. Turbe's arrest, agents seized more than 100 suspected marijuana plants, including the 40 recently harvested plants.

The DEA is continuing to investigate the case.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Erik C. Tate of the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of the Virgin Islands is prosecuting the matter.

"A criminal complaint is merely an allegation, and all defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law."