

The Virgin Islands Consortium

VIPD Urges Residents and Businesses to Register Security Cameras to Help Fight Crime

Police Commissioner Mario Brooks is urging residents to register home security cameras, including Ring doorbells, while businesses may voluntarily integrate their systems to give VIPD real-time video access during active emergencies across the territory.

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The V.I. Police Department is encouraging residents and businesses across the territory to participate in its Virgin Islands Community Connect camera registry program, an initiative intended to help officers respond more effectively to crimes and emergencies.

In a public message featuring Police Commissioner Mario Brooks, the department explained that Community Connect allows VIPD to identify the locations of registered security cameras throughout the islands.

Residents may register home security cameras, including Ring doorbells. Registering a residential camera does not give the Police Department access to its live video feed.

Instead, the registry informs investigators that a camera is located near an area they may be examining, allowing them to contact the owner and request relevant footage when needed.

Businesses have an additional option to integrate their camera systems with the program. Those that voluntarily choose integration may provide officers with real-time video access during active incidents.

According to VIPD, real-time access during emergencies can improve response times and provide police officers and other first responders with current information as an incident unfolds.

The department said cooperation among residents, businesses and law enforcement can help make neighborhoods throughout the Virgin Islands safer.

“Help us, help you,” the department stated.

Additional information about Virgin Islands Community Connect is available through the V.I. Police Department’s website at www.vipd.vi.gov.