

The Virgin Islands Consortium

Man Shot Dead At Coki Point Beach On St. Thomas, Island's Fourth Homicide For 2015

VIC News / **Published On February 02, 2015 12:47 PM /**

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A St. Thomas man was shot to death at Coki Point beach in St. Thomas Saturday night, recording the island's fourth homicide this year, and the territory's sixth.

Police was dispatched to the scene at about 8:45 p.m. and found the man, identified as 39-year-old Anthony Charles, lying near the beach's vendor buildings. St. Thomas Police Chief Darren Foy said the man appeared to have sustained gunshot wounds to the body, but he added there was no more information to be shared with the public at this time.

The territory's first homicide occurred on St. Croix, when Jose Miguel Hernandez Rosa, 29, of Marley Homes, [was found fatally wounded](#) by gunfire Jan. 16 in Estate Whim.

On Jan. 18, 38-year-old Jason Young [was found shot to death](#) in Ulke Gade, St. Thomas.

On Jan. 23, police ruled the death of Merle Natta, 54, of St. Thomas, a murder [after finding her body in a burning house](#) in Estate Mandal.

On Jan. 26 at about 6:15 p.m., St. Thomas police were called to the scene of gunshots fired in the vicinity of Bldg. 21 at the Hidden Valley Apartments. When they arrived at the location, [they found an unresponsive male victim, 21-year-old Ezekiah Joseph](#), suffering from gunshot wounds. He was pronounced dead at the scene by Emergency Medical Technicians and taken to the Schneider Regional Medical Center.

On Jan. 29, Lester Jackson, Jr., 26, was arrested and charged with negligent homicide [in the death of 16-year-old Elivs Smith, Jr.](#) after an investigation by traffic enforcement officers into the Jan. 9 accident on St. John determined that Jackson fell asleep at the wheel of his car and lost control of the vehicle, causing it to crash into a utility pole.

Image Credit: Coki Point Beach, Rich Lauver