

The Virgin Islands Consortium

Machine Gun-Wielding Carjacking Suspects Arrested, Vehicle Recovered

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Police have arrested a 16-year-old minor and 20-year-old James Cruz of Harbor View Apartments after brandishing what appeared to be a machine gun while carjacking a couple sitting in a vehicle in the vicinity of the St. Croix Educational Complex Saturday, VIPD Public Information Officer Kevin Jackson has announced.

Police received a call about the incident around 5:02 p.m. on Feb. 21.

The couple was said to be sitting in the car eating when the incident occurred.

The suspects demanded the car keys and the couple's cellphones before driving off in the stolen vehicle. Police issued an All Points Bulletin on the vehicle and officers came in contact with it on the Melvin H. Evans Highway in the area of Williams Delight.

Officers followed the suspects into the Cane Carlton area where the suspects disabled the vehicle in a ditch. The suspects then fled on foot toward the beach, where police apprehended them.

The victims were not injured and the vehicle was recovered.

The male minor and Cruz were remanded to the Bureau of Corrections.

The case is being investigated by detectives in the Criminal Investigation Bureau in conjunction with the Youth Investigation Bureau.