

The Virgin Islands Consortium

Unsolved Crimes: 'Gangland' Style Shooting Leaves Bulletproof Vest-Wearing Man Dead

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Every week, Crime Stoppers USVI selects three crimes that have yet to be solved in the Virgin Islands, and asks the community to help with any information that could possibly lead to justice. Below are the three incidents selected by Crime Stoppers for the week of May 27.

St. Thomas: On February 11th at approximately 6:40 a.m., officers were notified that a black male was laying inside a vehicle in the area of Building 10, Tutu High Rise. Upon arrival officers discovered that 20-year-old Leroy Rawlins of St. Kitts had been shot to death.

St. John: On May 13th at approximately 6:10 p.m., officers were dispatched to Love City Mini Mart regarding a burglary that occurred at 10A-14 Estate Carolina. The victims informed the officers that a friend had found documents and a briefcase in the roadway near Shipwreck Landing along with a safe. The the victims said that the friend returned the items, prompting the victims to examine their home.

Upon examination, it was found that one of the apartments had been broken into and a safe had been stolen. The safe included a taxi medallion, check books, a small metal box and other valuable items. Thankfully, the items were recovered, however, the perpetrator (s) remain elusive.

St. Croix: Police still need your help with an old case: On Tuesday, November 13, 2001 at approximately 2:45 p.m., 32-year-old Leander Alexander Smith Jr. was gunned down by three heavily armed masked men in a "gangland" style hit in front of the Charles Harwood Medical Complex. He died of multiple gunshot wounds despite having been wearing a bulletproof vest.

Anyone with information about these crimes should call the Major Crime Unit(340) 714-5617, Crime Stoppers, or 911.