

The Virgin Islands Consortium

VIPD Warns Against Bad Behavior During July 4 Weekend, 'Zero Tolerance' For Criminal Activity

Community Center / **Published On July 03, 2015 10:15 PM /**

Ernice Gilbert **July 03, 2015**



ST. CROIX -- The Virgin Islands Police Department has issued a press release making known that it expects residents to carry themselves in a respectable manner during the July 4 weekend, all while enjoying the festivities ongoing throughout the territory.

According to the release, residents should adhere to the following:

- Do not drink and drive. Please never get behind the wheel if you have been drinking – you are gambling with your life and the lives of others if you take this chance.

- Buckle up, and drive safely. Seat belts save lives and help prevent injuries. Also, make sure kids are in the proper car or booster seats.
- Observe speed limits, including lower speeds in work zones. Stay focused on the road and be aware of changing traffic patterns caused by construction.
- Avoid distracted driving. When the entire family is traveling in the car, the opportunity for distraction is multiplied. Remember to put the phone down, and never text while driving.

The VIPD also urges those intent on readying fireworks for their celebrations to never attempt to setup alone; never try to light multiple fireworks in tandem; the fireworks should always be lit on ground that is dry and fire resistant; always keep near a portable fire extinguisher as well as a water hose or water bucket; and children should never be permitted to handle fireworks or sparklers.

For those intent on participating in criminal activity, VIPD says they should "think twice," as the force will be "extra vigilant" during the season with a "zero tolerance" for misbehavior.

Motorcyclists are being asked to wear helmets when riding, and license plates of said vehicles should be visible at all times. All-Terrain Vehicles (ATVs) are not permitted on the territory's roads and will be impounded on first sighting.

Lastly, the VIPD is asking that business owners adhere to Noise Ordinance laws and adults with children are asked to be with those 16 and under at all times after 10:00 p.m.