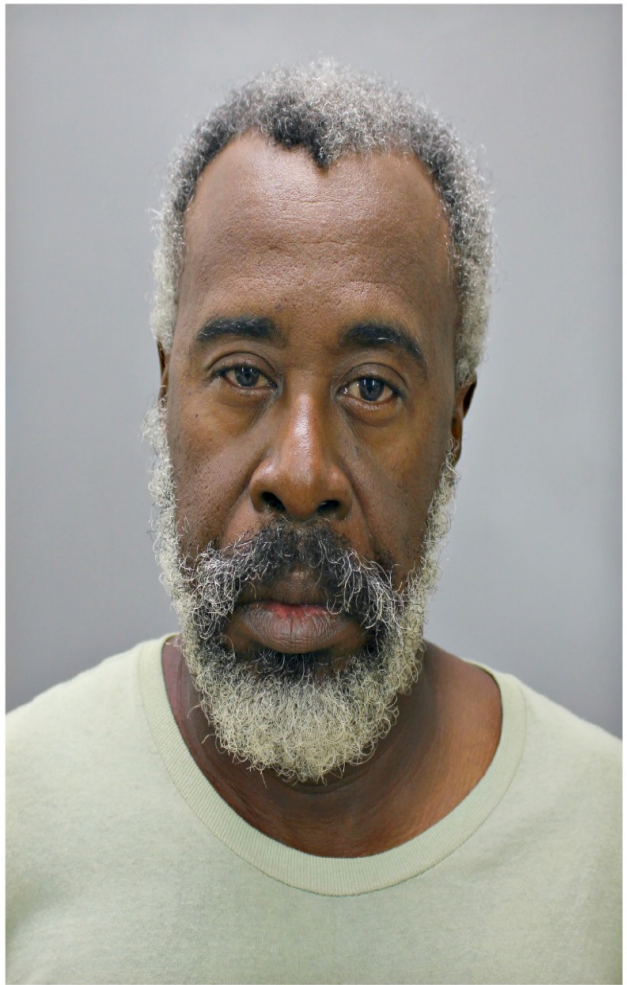


# The Virgin Islands Consortium

## Elderly Man And Woman Charged With Negligent Driving In Separate Incidents

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ST. THOMAS -- A woman here was charged with negligent driving after her involvement in what could only be described as a freak accident last Sunday, VIPD Public Information Officer Kevin Jackson announced this afternoon. On the day before, a man here was arrested and subsequently jailed for driving under the influence, according to police.

According to Jackson, on October 18 at 8:00 a.m., officers received notification from the 911 emergency call center of a vehicular accident including multiple cars that occurred on Veterans Drive, in the vicinity of the Hurley Funeral Home.

According to the report compiled by officers with the traffic division, four vehicles were involved in the accident.

The first vehicle was traveling from east to west in the inner or right lane of Veterans Drive, while the second was traveling from west to east in the inner or right lane. According to Jackson, the second vehicle made the right turn heading into Frenchtown and the first vehicle collided into it -- leaving the front-left fender and tire of the second vehicle damaged. While attempting to prevent the accident, the first vehicle made a hard turn left and collided into a parked vehicle, causing the parked transport to collide into another parked vehicle.

The operator of first vehicle, whose airbags deployed upon impact, complained of pain in his left shoulder but refused medical attention. Fire Service personnel were summoned to the scene to aid in the extracting of the person driving the second vehicle, who was pinned down inside and required medical attention.

The person operating the second vehicle was transported to the Roy Lester Schneider Hospital for injuries sustained in the collision, and was later identified as Dora Rampersad, 71. The senior was charged with negligent driving.

On Saturday, October 17, at 3:30 a.m., Avon Thomas, 52, of Estate Tutu was arrested on Rhymer Highway and charged with driving under the influence.

Thomas was arrested after he collided into a marked police unit and left the scene of the collision. He was stopped in the area of the Holy Family Church where he was unable to perform the field sobriety tests as instructed.

Thomas was arrested and charged with DUI, negligent driving, leaving the scene of an accident and reckless endangerment.

Unable to make bail of \$500, Thomas was remanded to the Bureau of Corrections pending his advise-of-rights hearing.