

The Virgin Islands Consortium

Man Sentenced to 84 Months in Prison for Carjacking at St. Croix Educational Complex

VIC News / **Published On November 24, 2015 10:13 PM /**

Staff **November 24, 2015**



ST. CROIX -- District Court Chief Judge Wilma A. Lewis today sentenced James Cruz, 20, to 84 months in prison for using a firearm during a crime of violence, United States Attorney Ronald W. Sharpe announced. Cruz also was ordered to serve three years of supervised release and pay a \$500 fine.

On July 28, 2015, Cruz pleaded guilty to using a firearm during a crime of violence. As part of his plea, Cruz admitted that on February 21, 2015 at St. Croix Educational Complex, he and an accomplice ordered two people to the ground at gun point and then drove off with their pick-up truck.

According to court records, Virgin Islands Police Department (VIPD) officers located and pursued the accomplices, who abandoned the truck and fled on foot in the Longpoint area. VIPD officers were able to capture the accomplices.

The accomplice is a juvenile, and his case has been adjudicated through the Office of the Attorney General of the Virgin Islands.

This case was investigated by the VIPD and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. It was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Christian H. Stringer.

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