

The Virgin Islands Consortium

Shootout Near Aureo Diaz Housing Community Leaves Three Injured; Elena Christian On Lockdown

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ST. CROIX -- Three men were injured in a shootout that occurred just before noon today on the north side of the Aureo Diaz Housing Community, Police Commissioner Delroy Richards confirmed to The Consortium this afternoon.

In a brief phone interview with The Consortium, Mr. Richards immediately clarified what he said were rumors circulating on the island that the shooting had occurred on the grounds of the Elena Christian Jr. High School, located across Aureo Diaz.

According to the commissioner, citing preliminary details that he received from investigators, [this](#) black Honda Civic was passing through the community heading north,

when a white car that was following from behind opened fire on the occupants of the Honda Civic.

"The occupants got out of the vehicle and ran into the nearby bushes," Mr. Richards said. He said police officers were able to respond almost immediately because there was a unit in the area.

Mr. Richards said the three men sustained non life-threatening injuries, and that the victims were in stable condition at the Juan F. Luis Hospital and Medical Center. He also said that the incident is currently being investigated by police.

Meanwhile, the Department of Education issued a press release informing parents that they should pick up their children from Elena Christian at 2:30 p.m. today, as the school has been on lockdown since the incident occurred.

D.O.E. says all students and staff have been accounted for.

Feature Image: Scene of today's shooting.

Image Credit: VIC.