

The Virgin Islands Consortium

Sunny Acres Man Fends Off Gun-Wielding Suspect With Machete, Help Of Neighbor

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ST. CROIX -- A man's plot violently turned on him after his intended robbery victim defended himself with wild swings of a machete and help from a neighbor, V.I.P.D. Media Specialist Sakeeda Freeman announced late Monday.

According to Ms. Freeman, on Sunday at about 1:11 a.m., officers responded to a disturbance call in Sunny Acres, only to find police officers already on the scene with the suspect detained.

The complainant said he'd just arrived to his house when he suddenly heard footsteps approaching from behind. As he turned around, he observed the suspect walking towards

him with a long firearm pointed in his direction. The complainant said he then took his machete and swung at the suspect several times while calling for help.

The complainant further explained that his neighbor came to his aid and assisted in retrieving the firearm from the suspect, and they were able to contain and detain him.

The complainant suffered several lacerations to the palm of his hand (the report did not specify which hand), and the suspect -- who was transported to the Juan F. Luis Hospital for treatment -- sustained lacerations to his hands and face during the incident.

While at the hospital, the suspect made several utterances admitting to the robbery.

Police are asking residents with additional information concerning this incident to phone 911 or the anonymous tip service, Crime Stoppers USVI, at 1-800-222-8477.