

The Virgin Islands Consortium

Atlanta Woman And St. Thomas Man Arrested Attempting To Smuggle Marijuana And Hashish Into Territory

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ST. THOMAS -- Daniell Sherre Combs, 31, of Atlanta, Georgia, and C'quan Celestine, 21, of St. Thomas, made their initial appearance on Saturday, March 26, 2016, before U.S. Magistrate Ruth Miller after being charged in a complaint with possession with intent to distribute marijuana and hashish, United States Attorney Ronald W. Sharpe announced today. Combs and Celestine were detained pending preliminary and detention hearings set for March 30, 2016.

According to the complaint, on Friday, March 25, 2016, Combs and Celestine arrived together at the Cyril E. King Airport, St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands, on board a Spirit Airlines flight from Fort Lauderdale, Florida. U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officers approached Combs and Celestine after they had removed their bags from the carousel in the baggage claim area. They were taken to secondary inspection where CBP officers searched their bags and found a large plastic bag of a green leafy substance that tested positive for marijuana, four bottles of oil that tested positive for THC (hashish), 63 grams of hashish, and several baked goods laced with marijuana.

Under federal law if convicted of possession with intent to distribute marijuana or hashish, Combs and Celestine face a maximum of five years in prison and a \$250,000 fine.

This case is being investigated by CBP and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement's (ICE) Homeland Security Investigations (HSI). It is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Sigrid M. Tejo-Sprotte.

United States Attorney Sharpe reminds the public that a complaint is merely a formal charging document and is not evidence of guilt. Every defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.