

The Virgin Islands Consortium

Video: At Protest Against Lack Of Senate Action On Violence, Mario Moorhead Takes Center Stage

Tourism / **Published On April 21, 2016 11:51 AM /**

Staff **April 21, 2016**



ST. CROIX -- Outside the Legislature building in Frederiksted on Wednesday, residents protested what they deem as the lack of action on gun violence in the territory. The protest -- spearheaded by Marilyn "Ilesha" Hodge, who lost a son to gun violence over ten years ago -- was advertised for weeks on local radio and called for a march on the Legislature demanding action.

Recognized names at the protest included Mario Moorhead, the legendary radio talk show host; Retired track coach Eurman Fahiel; former senator Adelbert Bryan and others. They met with senators Positive Nelson and Sammuel Sanes. Other lawmakers were in St. Thomas for a Committee on Rules and Judiciary meeting.

According to Mr. Bryan, Mr. Nelson told the protesters that they could not enter the building, so the group wound up voicing their frustrations outside. He said the senator passed residents without even acknowledging their presence: "He did not even say good morning," Mr. Bryan said.

Mr. Bryan's claims were disputed by Mr. Nelson, who said he told the protesters that he could not allow them to utilize the Legislature's conference room without the authorization of Senate President Neville James -- who was in St. Thomas at the time.

"I did not stop, prevent nor discouraged Adelbert Bryan or anyone else from entering the building," he said.

Mr. Bryan stayed on the road while residents gathered just outside the Legislature's courtyard. There, Mr. Moorhead passionately spoke to Mr. Sanes and Mr. Nelson about why he thinks people of color continue to fight against each other. See video [here](#).