

The Virgin Islands Consortium

U.S. Officials Seize \$2 Million Thrown in Waters off Puerto Rico

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Money seized by CBP By. Customs and Border Protection

U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Air and Marine Operations (AMO) Marine Interdiction Agents on Monday seized more than \$2 million in undeclared currency found in bags believed to be dumped from a vessel traveling near Vieques, Puerto Rico following a boat chase.

While on patrol, AMO Marine Interdiction agents (MIAs) detected a vessel, which began to maneuver to elude them, CBP said.

The MIA's, operating a Coastal Interceptor Vessel, observed objects floating in the water that appeared to be duffel bags and retrieved them before sinking.

"Transnational criminal organizations seek to conceal and move currency from their activities," stated Johnny Morales, director of Air and Marine Operations for the Caribbean Air and Marine Branch. "Our agents continue to use advanced aeronautical and maritime capabilities to detect and interdict them throughout our coastal borders."

Special Agents with US Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) will take over the investigation.

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