

The Virgin Islands Consortium

Mapp Condemns Killing Of Girl Child; Authorizes \$10,000 Reward And Calls For Witnesses To Come Forward

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ST. THOMAS -- Governor Kenneth Mapp has strongly condemned the gun violence that led to the death of an 17-month old baby girl Wednesday night on St. Thomas and has authorized a \$10,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of those responsible, Government House announced Thursday.

[As reported this morning](#), the child was a passenger in a car that was targeted by gunmen in the area of Contant Knolls just before 10 p.m. The car's driver was also wounded in the attack.

"I extend my deepest condolences to the family," Mr. Mapp said. "This is a heartbreaking tragedy that has rocked our entire community. It is almost unthinkable that we could lose such a young child in this way."

The governor has been assured by the Virgin Islands Police Department that every effort is being made to identify and apprehend the shooter.

"The harder we work to curtail these violent acts, the more brutal they become, which is so shocking to the conscience of people of good will," Mr. Mapp said. "I am asking my police commissioner, the attorney general and their federal law enforcement colleagues to aggressively step up their initiatives and focus on those persons in the territory known for their involvement in criminal activity, gun and drug possession.

"I want the law enforcement community to do whatever it takes to bring the perpetrator of this senseless act of violence to justice. I am authorizing a \$10,000 reward to any person who provides meaningful information that will lead to the arrest and conviction of the person or persons responsible for the death of this infant."

The governor urged anyone with information on Wednesday night's shooting to immediately contact the VIPD Homicide Task Force at (340) 774-2211, Crime Stoppers at (800) 222-8477 or to call 911. For more information, call 954-254-9393.