

The Virgin Islands Consortium

Man Runs Toward Seaplane Terminal Monday Night Seeking Cover From Gunshots; Shooting Suspect Identified

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Mugshot of Manuel Davis Melendez By. THE VIRGIN ISLANDS POLICE DEPARTMENT

ST. CROIX — A man on Monday night ran toward the Seaborne Airlines Seaplane Terminal in Christiansted from a suspect who fired multiple rounds of gunfire at him, leaving the victim with a gunshot wound to the leg, V.I.P.D. Public Information Officer Toby Derima has announced.

According to the police report, on Monday at roughly 9:44 p.m., the 911 Emergency Call Center received notification of shots fired in the Ruby M. Rouss Housing Community,

also known was Watergut.

Officers traveled to the area and were advised of a gunshot victim in the vicinity of the nearby Seaborne Airlines terminal. An investigation revealed the victim was being chased and shot at by a suspect, and the victim ran toward the terminal to seek shelter from the attack. The victim received a gunshot wound to his left leg and was transported to the Juan F. Luis Hospital via ambulance for treatment, according to police.

Mr. Derima said further investigation into the matter revealed the suspect to be Manuel Davis Melendez, who goes by the moniker "Matatan."

Melendez is a Hispanic male with long black hair kept in braids or ponytails. He stands between 5 feet 7 inches to 5 feet 9 inches tall and weighs 165 pounds. He has multiple tattoos; most prominent is a cross tattoo on the center of his neck that reads "De' Jari", surrounded by orange flames to the left side of his neck. He has another tattoo that reads "Manuel" on his left forearm, a dice with stars and flames tattoo on top of his left hand, and a tattoo that reads "RIP Elvis" on the top of his right hand.

Melendez, who is considered dangerous, is known to frequent Williams Delight, Old Fredensborg, and Ruby Rouss Apartments.

If you know of Melendez's whereabouts, or if you have information about this incident, you are urged to contact police by calling 911, the Crime TipLine at (340) 778-4950, or contact Crime Stoppers USVI [here](#).