

The Virgin Islands Consortium

Mapp Decries Domestic Violence, Praises Justice Department For Prosecution Of Former Police Captain

Crime / **Published On March 27, 2017 08:38 PM /**

Staff **March 27, 2017**



ST. THOMAS -- Following the [murder conviction](#) of former Police Captain Enrique Saldana on Friday, Governor Kenneth E. Mapp has expressed his appreciation for the work of the Virgin Islands Department of Justice, led by Attorney General Claude Walker. Mr. Saldana was found guilty of second-degree murder and other felony charges stemming from the violent death of his wife, Jeanette Magras-Saldana, Government House announced today.

“This is another tragic moment stemming from the scourge of domestic violence. It is a plague haunting many families and we must do all we can to shine the light on this horrible human behavior,” Mr. Mapp said. “If you have a friend or family member who is

being victimized by domestic violence, reach out and get help for them at one of our community groups, the Family Resource Center on St. Thomas/ St. John or the Women's Coalition on St. Croix. The one thing that domestic violence perpetrators fear most is 'light' - the knowledge that other people know of their brutality. We must continue to respond, support and get help for the victims."

While recognizing that nothing can restore lost lives, Mr. Mapp said he believes the territory's residents can all help by taking domestic abuse seriously, reporting what they observe, and helping the victims find courage to accept help. He praised the work of the Family Resource Center and the Women's Coalition, which he credits with saving the lives of many women and children, especially, by providing emergency shelter, counseling, and legal assistance.

"All victims of domestic abuse and violence can be assured that my administration and the VI Department of Justice will do all within their power to protect you and hold the abusers responsible for their acts of violence," the territory's leader said. "I congratulate the entire team at the VI Department of Justice for the successful prosecution of Enrique Saldana, an abuser who thought he was above the law."