

The Virgin Islands Consortium

Dept. Of Health To Unveil New Ambulances On Friday

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Ernice Gilbert **April 20, 2017**



ST. CROIX -- After months of waiting for ambulances purchased during the tenure of former Property and Procurement Commissioner Randolph Bennett, the Department of Health on Thursday made known that it has received five new ambulances set to service the St. Croix and St. Thomas districts. The department even organized a press conference to unveil the new emergency vehicles.

The five ambulances were distributed among the U.S.V.I.'s three main islands, with St. Croix and St. Thomas receiving two each, while St. John received one, according to D.O.H.

In October, Mr. Bennett said Property and Procurement had purchased 7 new ambulances, four to be used in St. Croix and three for the St. Thomas-St. John district, at a cost of just over \$200,000 each. But because the new ambulances were being custom-built for use in the territory, Mr. Bennett said the vehicles would have taken six months before being shipped to the islands -- a delivery, for five of them at least, that came right on schedule.

The purchases were part of an [emergency vehicles measure](#) that saw the government, through the Public Finance Authority, floating a \$10 million bond for the purchase of an array of first responder vehicles, including V.I.P.D., V.I. Fire Service, Dept. of Health, Public Works, Bureau of Corrections, the Office of the Examiner and the central government.

The press conference takes place in the parking lot of the Charles Harwood Complex on St. Croix at 10:00 a.m., followed by a ribbon-cutting affair. D.O.H. invited the public to attend.