

The Virgin Islands Consortium

Man Arraigned On Felon In Possession Of Firearm Charge

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ST. THOMAS -- Shakieme S. Freeman, 24, of St. Thomas, was arraigned yesterday before U.S. Magistrate Judge Ruth Miller on a criminal complaint charging him with being a felon in possession of a firearm, Acting United States Attorney Joycelyn Hewlett announced. After a detention hearing held today, Judge Miller released Freeman to two third-party custodians on a \$25,000 unsecured bond and placed him on home detention with electronic monitoring pending further proceedings.

According to the complaint, police were patrolling the Thomasville Housing Community on February 16, 2017, when they came into contact with Freeman and discovered him to be armed with a loaded Glock pistol.

If convicted of being a felon in possession of a firearm, Freeman faces a maximum sentence of 10 years in prison and a \$250,000 fine.

The information is the result of investigative work by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives. It is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Meredith J. Edwards.

Acting United States Attorney Hewlett reminds the public that an Indictment is merely a formal charging document and is not evidence of guilt. Every defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.

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