

# The Virgin Islands Consortium

## Illegal Immigrant, Caught With Loaded Firearm, Pleads Guilty In Federal Court

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ST. CROIX -- James Charlery, 53, currently of St. Croix but a native of St. Lucia, was sentenced on March 28, 2018, in District Court on the counts of reentry by an illegal immigrant after removal and illegal immigrant in possession of a firearm, United States Attorney Gretchen C.F. Shappert announced Friday.

Chief Judge Wilma A. Lewis sentenced Charlery to 15 months in prison, followed by 1 year of supervised release, and ordered Charlery to pay a fine of \$500 and a special assessment of \$200. Upon the completion of his sentence, Charlery faces deportation, as an immigration detainer has been placed on him by the Department of Homeland Security.

Charlery entered a guilty plea to these charges on December 29, 2017 and admitted that he was an illegal immigrant who had unlawfully reentered the territory of the Virgin Islands after his deportation in 1995 to St. Lucia. He also acknowledged that on May 25, 2017, he illegally possessed a loaded firearm, a Smith and Wesson .38 caliber revolver, at the Frontline Bar and Restaurant in Frederiksted.

The case was investigated by the Virgin Islands Police Department and the Department of Homeland Security. The case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Daniel H. Huston.

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