

The Virgin Islands Consortium

As Schneider Hospital Undergoes Repairs, EMTs Will Be Stationed At Omar Brown Sr. Fire Station

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ST. THOMAS -- Emergency Medical Services on St. Thomas has been working out of the Omar Browne Fire Station after being displaced on Saturday from Schneider Regional Medical Center because of ongoing repairs, Government House announced Thursday. Both V.I. Fire Service Director Daryl George Sr. and Department of Health Commissioner Justa Encarnacion said the two first responder arms have been working seamlessly at the location.

According to Government House, Mr. George said four EMTs and two ambulances have been working out of the Omar Brown Fire Station near Barbel Plaza, working 24 hours daily without any negative impact on the Emergency Medical Services operations.

“On behalf of the men women of the V.I. Fire Service, we welcome our brothers and sisters from EMS with open arms and our continued collaboration as one team with one mission,” Mr. George said.

Government House said EMS called the Fire Service for assistance on Tuesday, and firefighters helped the paramedic work on a patient in the ambulance as it drove with a fire truck escort to the Schneider Hospital Emergency Room.

Mr. George said he expects the repairs at SRMC to take a few weeks before completion, and during that time, St. Thomas EMS will continue to operate out of the Omar Brown Fire Station.

“I fully support having EMS in a central location to provide services with a quicker response time to the community,” said Ms. Encarnacion said. “I have been in communication with the hospital’s (SRMC) acting CEO, and it has been acknowledged that the former space is unavailable. However, we are working expeditiously to integrate Fire and EMS.”