

The Virgin Islands Consortium

VIPD Says 'Several' Officers Have Contracted Covid-19 in 'Past Weeks'; Operations Won't be Impacted

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ST. CROIX — The Virgin Islands Police Department announced Sunday that "several" of its officers, specifically in St. Thomas, had contracted the novel coronavirus in the "past weeks," causing the closure of Zone A Command in Charlotte Amalie for what the police force said would be a comprehensive cleaning of the facility, which was on schedule to be completed today.

The department did not divulge how many officers fell ill, and it said vaguely that the infections occurred in "the past weeks." Police spokesman Toby Derima said the news release issued Sunday was what his office received from Police Commissioner Trevor Velinor. Calls placed to Mr. Velinor were not immediately returned.

"This temporary closure does not impact our ability to accomplish our core mission of protecting our community," said the V.I.P.D. "However, the Records Bureau office in that building will not open as planned on September 14. The St. Thomas Records Bureau office will remain closed until further notice; however, requests will continue to be processed online."

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The police force apologized for any inconvenience the temporary closure may have caused.