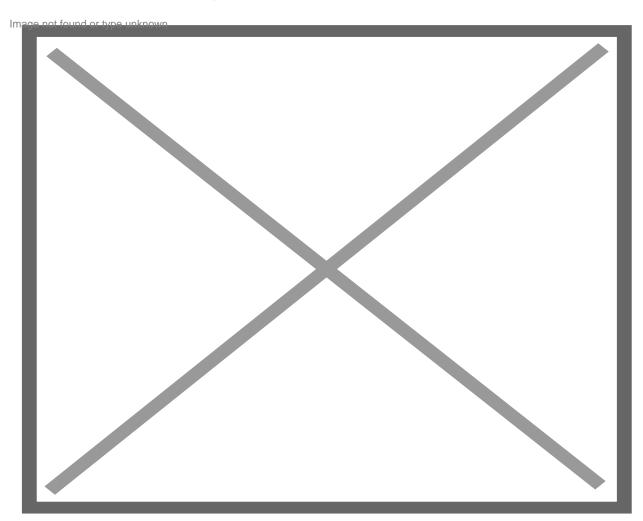
U.S. Attorney's Office Releases Video Promoting Project Safe Neighborhoods, Project Guardian and CrimeStoppers Partnership

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United States Attorney Gretchen C.F. Shappert for the District of the Virgin Islands announced this week a YouTube video promoting the partnership between the USVI Project Safe Neighborhoods, Project Guardian, and Crime Stoppers.

The initiative, according to Shappert, encourages reporting violent and gun-related crimes as a means of combatting violent crime and illegal guns in the territory. This renewed partnership targets violence in the territory in attempt to reduce crime and make our island a safer place to live.

The public service announcement (PSA) is titled "U.S. Virgin Islands Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) and Crime Stoppers PSA". The video is accessible on YouTube (https://youtu.be/9FEUfmCEgAI) and emphasizes the importance of "if you see something, say something." The PSA was created to encourage more community intelligence sharing with law enforcement in the USVI.

"Project Safe Neighborhoods is a centerpiece of our crime reduction strategy. Together with our Project Guardian firearms prosecution initiative, PSN is a tested and proven program to invest in our communities and foster vital partnerships," Shappert said. "PSN enables the United States Attorney's Office, together with our law enforcement partners, to target and prioritize criminal prosecutions on the most violent people in the most violent areas. Second, we engage with a wide variety of stakeholders—from federal and local law enforcement, to community groups, educators, faith-based organizations, and victims' advocates—in order to identify the needs specific to our communities and to develop strategies to reduce crime."

She added, "While federal law enforcement and prosecutors work to take violent offenders off our streets, we are collaborating with USVI Crime Stoppers and members of this community who care deeply about the well-being of our Island home. Please support this effort by sharing our video and audio clip."

Individuals wanting to know more about Project Safe Neighborhoods can check out the <u>Project Safe Neighborhoods website</u>. For those wishing to participate in the PSN initiative, please contact the U.S. Attorney's Office, 340-774-5757.

To find more information about Crime Stoppers or report an anonymous tip online go to website to <u>submit a tip</u>. Two other easy ways to submit a Tip and possibly receive a cash reward by Calling 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) where you will be connected to a trained representative who will assist you or on your mobile device using the P3 Tips App, where you can provide crime-solving information, submit photos of suspects and videos of crimes, and have two-way conversations with Crime Stoppers about the crime, their tip, and a reward — all while remaining anonymous.

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