

The Virgin Islands Consortium

Police Confiscate Large Cocaine Package Found at Ha'Penny Beach; Suspects Escape

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Police on Ha'Penny Beach By. VI CONSORTIUM

ST. CROIX — V.I.P.D. officers confiscated cocaine at the Ha'Penny Beach Monday morning, with at least two individuals fleeing the scene when law enforcement arrived.

According to V.I.P.D. Public Information Officer Toby Derima, at approximately 7:31 a.m., the 911 Emergency Call Center dispatched officers to Ha'Penny Beach regarding a suspicious package that was located by a concerned citizen.

Upon arrival at the beach, officers observed a male individual with a package. Officers approached the individual with the package, at which time the individual dropped the package and ran from the area. Officers also observed a second man in the area, who ran away. Both men escaped and are at large, Mr. Derima said.

The package, containing a large amount of cocaine, was turned over to Homeland Security, Custom and Border Patrol and HIDTA Task Force agents for further investigation.

St. Croix District Chief of Police Sidney Elskoe thanked the citizens who contacted police. "We need everyone to contact us at the first sign of suspicious activity or items, so we can be on top of the situation," Chief Elskoe said.

He urged everyone who has information on crimes to call 911, the Crime TipLine at (340) 778-4950, or Crime Stoppers USVI at (800) 222-TIPS. Remember, if you see something, say something.