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DLCA Shuts Down St. John Grocery Store for Selling Expired Items; Cites Businesses for Operating Outside Scope of License

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ST. JOHN — On November 14-16, after regular business hours, the Department of Licensing and Consumer Affairs (DLCA) Enforcement Team collaborated with the Department of Health (DOH) inspectors and the Virgin Islands Fire Service (VIFS) inspectors to visit a number of restaurants, tavern keepers and grocery stores on St. John to ensure compliance with each department's respective rules and regulations, DLCA has made known.

DLCA said businesses received citations for various infractions of each department's respective rules and regulations. The department also issued citations for operating

outside the scope of one's business license, operating without a business license and selling expired products.

DLCA said it closed one grocery store for selling too many expired products on its shelves, including medication. The Dept. of Health permitted three restaurants to voluntarily close in lieu of health violations. V.I.F.S. issued citations to every business it inspected.

“DLCA shall continue to collaborate with DOH and VIFS to ensure consumers purchase non-expired foods from grocery stores and order safe properly handled food from sanitary restaurants. Residents and visitors of the Virgin Islands deserve the best and nothing less,” said DLCA Commissioner Evangelista. “The power to avoid a citation or a business closure is in the hands of a business to ensure there are no expired goods on its shelf or in the hands of a restaurant or tavern keeper to improve food safety”.

Mr. Evangelista also thanks the DOH and VIFS for their support and collaboration with this operation. Businesses with questions may contact the Office of the Commissioner directly at (340) 713-6916. For consumer related issues you may email us at consumerawareness@dlca.vi.gov or follow us on Facebook.