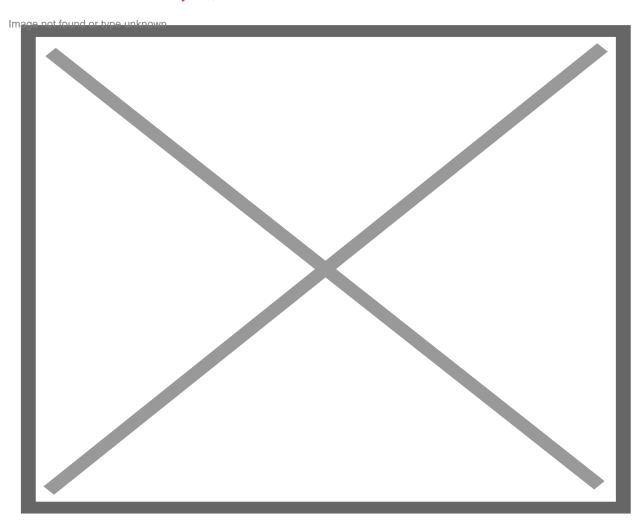
St. Croix's and USVI's First Baby of 2021 is Ausar Polius; St. Thomas's First Baby of 2021 is Je'Quan Joseph Jr.

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From left, Davante Polius and Sabrina Jones with baby boy Ausar Polius from St. Croix. On the right, Je'Quan Joseph, Sr. along with Keneisha Daniel and baby Junior. By. SABRINA JONES, SCHNEIDER REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER.

The first 2021 babies of the St. Croix and St. Thomas-St. John Districts have been announced by the respective hospitals, with both islands producing bouncing baby boys to happy mothers and fathers.

On St. Croix, Sabrina Jones and Davante Polius welcomed baby boy Ausar Massiah Polius to planet earth. According to the parents, Ausar was born at 3:27 p.m. Jan. 1, which also makes him

the first baby of 2021 territory-wide. He weighed 7 pounds and 11 ounces and was eating well, according to Juan F. Luis Hospital officials.

Sabrina said they were not expecting the baby to be born on New Year's Day, but it felt great that he did, she added.

"We feel blessed. It's a blessing and it feels like an announcement, you know. It feels like a great announcement for him," Davante, the child's father, said of his son's January 1 birth.

According to JFL, the child's caregivers were led by Dr. Anne Treasure, who also provided the mother's care during pregnancy. "We congratulate these new parents on the birth of their beautiful son on New Year's Day," said JFL Interim CEO Dyma Williams. "We further congratulate the maternal grandmother, who is a 20-year member of the JFL family. This birth is truly a joy."

St. Thomas's first baby, Je'Quan Joseph, Jr. came on Jan. 2 at 3:05 a.m. to parents Keneisha Daniel and Je'Quan Jahmoy Joseph Sr., according to the Schneider Regional Medical Center. At birth he weighed 7 pounds, 10.4 ounces.

"[The year] 2020 was a challenging year for all of us," said SRMC Interim CEO Dr. Luis Amaro. "Welcoming new life into the world is always a joy and being a part of this first delivery at SRMC for 2021 is especially significant as we all look forward to a better year ahead."

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