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Man Appears From Bushes, Attacks Woman Who Left Him by Shooting Her in the Ear, Police Say

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Darren Hodge By. THE VIRGIN ISLANDS POLICE DEPARTMENT

ST. THOMAS — A St. Thomas man is facing multiple charges after allegedly attacking a woman in the presence of their child, announced police spokesman Toby Derima.

The suspect, identified by police as 42-year-old Darren Hodge of Savan, turned himself in Wednesday morning after learning that he was wanted by police. Hodge was placed under arrest and charged with third-degree assault, domestic violence.

According to Mr. Derima, on Tuesday, the mother and her daughter arrived at their residence when the child's father, the victim's former partner, appeared from nearby bushes, at which point the victim told Hodge to leave. Hodge then noticed a light on in the victim's house and proceeded

to push the victim to the ground. A struggle then ensued between the two, according to Mr. Derima, citing a statement provided by the victim. The minor daughter joined the fight to help her mother. Hodge then pulled out a firearm, held it to the side of the victim's head, and fired, grazing her ear, according to the news release.

The victim was transported to the Schneider Regional Medical Center for treatment.

Hodge was turned over to the Bureau of Corrections without bail in accordance with the territory's domestic violence statutes, pending his advisement hearing.

According to Mr. Derima, the case is still under investigation. Detectives are urging anyone with further information to call 911, the Domestic Violence Unit at (340) 774-2211, or Crime Stoppers USVI at (800) 222-TIPS.