

The Virgin Islands Consortium

St. Thomas Man Caught on Tape Fleeing Hospital Ground With Bag That Contained AK-47 Pleads Guilty to Federal Charge

Crime / **Published On March 04, 2021 04:59 AM /**

Staff Consortium **March 04, 2021**



Mugshot of Akeem Julien. By. THE VIRGIN ISLANDS POLICE DEPARTMENT

ST. THOMAS – Akeem Julien, 25, of St. Thomas, appeared before Magistrate Judge Ruth Miller Wednesday in District Court and entered a guilty plea to the charge of possessing a firearm with an obliterated serial number, United States Attorney Gretchen C.F. Shappert for the District of the Virgin Islands has announced.

According to court documents, on April 8, 2020, while patrolling the Hospital Ground neighborhood in St. Thomas due to recent shootings, V.I. Police Department officers

pursued a group of individuals, including Julien, after the group ran when officers approached. Surveillance video captured Julien and the others climbing over a railing and onto a patio with two black bags. The surveillance video shows Julien in possession of one of the bags which he then hands to another individual. The surveillance video further shows the other individual leave the patio with two bags, heading in one direction, while Julien and others leave in the opposite direction. The bag Julien possessed contained an AK-47 firearm with an obliterated serial number. Julien's DNA was recovered from the AK-47 firearm.

The offense carries a possible sentence of incarceration of up to five years, a maximum fine of up to \$250,000 dollars, and a term of supervised release of up to three years. Sentencing will be scheduled at a later date.

This case is being investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives and the Virgin Islands Police Department. It is being prosecuted by the United States Attorney's Office of the Virgin Islands.