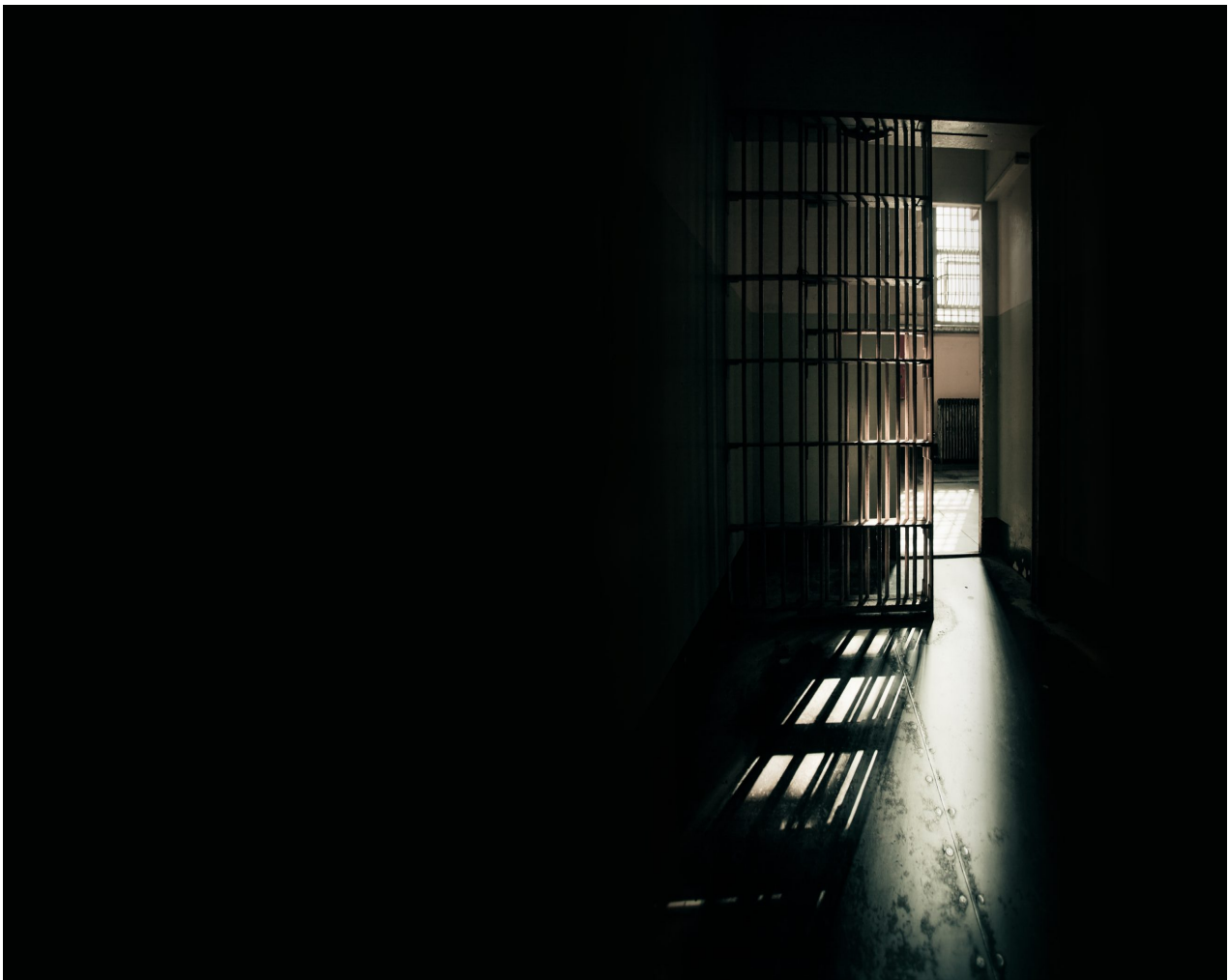


The Virgin Islands Consortium

St. Thomas Man Sentenced to Federal Prison for Attempting to Board Flight With Kilo of Cocaine Strapped to His Waist

Crime / **Published On April 24, 2021 06:31 AM /**

Staff Consortium **April 24, 2021**



ST. THOMAS — U.S. Attorney Gretchen C.F. Shappert announced Friday that a St. Thomas man was sentenced yesterday to 30 months in federal prison for possession with intent to distribute a cocaine.

According to court documents, Miguel Batista, 27, of St. Thomas was subject to inspection by Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officers during routine screening at the Cyril E. King Airport. During the inspection, officers located a vacuum-sealed package of cocaine weighing approximately 1.07 kilograms taped to Batista's torso,

which was concealed under a compression shirt and another layer of clothing.

The Department of Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) and CBP investigated the case. Assistant U.S. Attorney Kyle R. Payne prosecuted the case.

© Viconsortium 2026