

The Virgin Islands Consortium

VIPD Investigating Threat Circulating that Claims a Student Intends to Open Gunfire at Complex Today

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ST. CROIX — Police on St. Croix are investigating an alleged threat to St. Croix Educational Complex High School circulating on social media on Thursday night that claims a student intends to open fire on the campus Friday, V.I.P.D. Public Information Officer Toby Derima has announced.

In a conference call with Commissioner Racquel Berry Benjamin and senior Department of Education officials on Thursday night, Police Commissioner Trevor Velinor indicated that officers are actively working leads and contacting students who may have received the threatening message via text earlier in the day, Mr. Derima said.

According to the report, Mr. Velinor said that police will be present at Complex High School, which will remain open on Friday, and officers will also be present at Central High School in the interest of student safety.

“We want the community to know that we are investigating this matter fully and that it is safe to come to school on Friday,” Mr. Velinor said. “We know this kind of violence has not happened in our territory, but unfortunately, there has been too many instances of gun violence on school campuses on the mainland, so we are taking this very seriously.”

The matter remains under investigation. The V.I.P.D. is asking anyone with information about the matter to call 911, the Crime TipLine at (340) 778-4950, or Crime Stoppers USVI at 1(800) 222-8477.