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St. Croix Man Facing Years in Jail After Feds Find 178 Marijuana Plants in Grow Operation at His Home

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ST. CROIX — U.S. Attorney Gretchen C.F. Shappert has announced that a St. Croix man was arrested on Wednesday on criminal charges related to his alleged marijuana grow operation.

According to court documents, V.I. Police Department officers were dispatched to the residence of Mikey Luke, age 48, of Anna's Hope, St. Croix, on a report of alleged child abuse. During that investigation, officers observed marijuana plants outside of his house. A subsequent search revealed 178 growing marijuana plants.

Luke is charged with possession of a controlled substance with intent to distribute. If convicted, Luke faces a potential of 5-40 years in prison, according to court documents. A federal district court judge will determine any sentence after considering the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines and

other statutory factors.

The V.I. Police Department and the Drug Enforcement Administration are investigating the case.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Daniel H. Huston is prosecuting the case.

A complaint is merely an allegation and all defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.

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