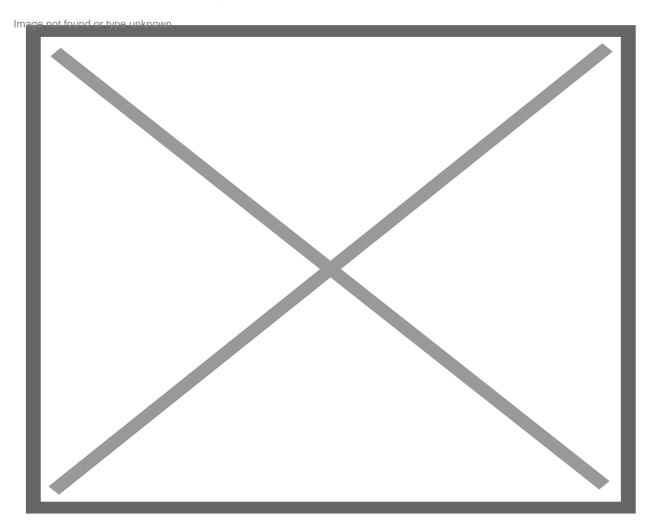
Dept. of Health Announces Three Deaths Related to Covid-19, Including 39-Year-Old Male; Territory's Total Reported Coronavirus Deaths Now 78

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The V.I. Dept. of Health announced on Thursday the 76th, 77th, and 78th deaths in the USVI related to Covid-19, days after announcing the 74th and 75th deceased victims. Among the latest victims is a 39-year-old old male, a reminder that virulent disease's impact on the territory continues even as cases ebb.

All three of the latest victims are from St. Croix. They include a 59-year-old female; a 39-year-old male, and a 78-year-old male, according to the Dept. of Health.

On Tuesday, the Bryan administration urged residents of St. Croix not to let up on Covid protocols, with the island accounting for a majority of the territory's total active cases.

As of Wednesday there were 121 active cases territory-wide, with St. Croix leading with 104 cases or 86 percent, followed by St. Thomas with 15 cases and St. John 2.

"We are urging St. Croix residents to take precaution. You are at risk, and you should take particular caution until the numbers on St. Croix start to subside," said Richard Motta, the administration's communications director. "But even for residents of St. Thomas and St. John, don't let the ebb and flow in the number of active cases on a particular island determine how you should protect yourself. Today, our message is to urge you not to think that because there are a certain number of cases on the island you reside in, you are safer or are less at risk and therefore don't have to take those simple precautions."

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