

The Virgin Islands Consortium

Man Fined and Sentenced to 4 Years Probation and Community Service For Smuggling Marijuana in Luggage to St. Croix

Crime / **Published On December 09, 2021 04:53 PM /**

Staff Consortium **December 09, 2021**



ST. CROIX — United States Attorney Gretchen C.F. Shappert announced Thursday that Armando Antonio Mena, age 29, of Arizona, was sentenced by District Court Judge Wilma Lewis to four years of federal probation, a fine of \$3,000, special assessment fee of \$100, and 100 hours of community service.

Mena had pleaded guilty on February 5, 2021 in federal court to possession of marijuana with intent to distribute.

According to court documents, Mena traveled to St. Croix on May 27, 2020 on a flight that originated in San Francisco, California. On that flight, he transported checked luggage containing twenty-two individually wrapped vacuum sealed bags that contained just under ten kilograms of marijuana — the amount and packaging being consistent with drug distribution.

The case was investigated by Homeland Security Investigations and U.S. Customs and Border Protection. It is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Melissa P. Ortiz.

© Viconsortium 2026