

The Virgin Islands Consortium

Con Artist Sentenced to 33 Months in Federal Prison For Impersonated Various Government Officials, Scamming Elderly Victims

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ST. THOMAS — United States Attorney Gretchen C.F. Shappert announced today that Yamini Potter, age 36, was sentenced to 33 months in prison for his convictions of obtaining money by false pretenses and obstruction of justice.

According to court documents, from about May 2019 through October 23, 2020, Potter, acting as himself and others including federal Magistrate Judge Ruth Miller, former Virgin Islands Lieutenant Governor Osbert Potter, Virgin Islands Attorney General Denise George, and retired federal Judge Curtis Gomez, contacted elderly victims requesting

that they pay him large sums of money, which ultimately totaled over \$100,000, to purportedly pay for lawyers and legal fees associated with various fictitious lawsuits.

After Potter was arrested for his criminal conduct, he continued to use the V.I. Bureau of Corrections telephone to contact victims of his fraudulent schemes on a recorded line. He also told the victims not to cooperate with the federal authorities in their investigation of the matter. He instructed the victims to delete text messages between himself and the victims.

Potter was sentenced to 33 months in prison, followed by 3 years supervised release. He was also ordered to pay restitution in the amount of \$120,650 to the victims and a special assessment of \$ 200.

This case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.