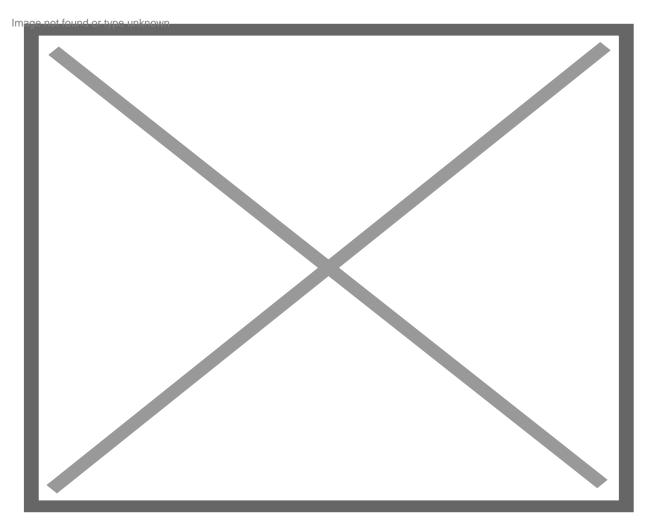
## VIPD Seeking Help to Locate 12-Year-Old Runaway Child, 44-Year-Old Missing Woman

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From left to right: 12-year-old Samijah Leerdam and 45-year-old Eduviges Mercedes Amparo. By. THE VIRGIN ISLANDS POLICE DEPARTMENT

ST. THOMAS — The V.I. Police Department is seeking the community's help to locate 12-year-old Samijah Leerdam of Estate Mariendahl, who the V.I.P.D. said ran away from home. Also missing is 44-year-old Eduviges Mercedes Amparo, who was last seen on April 15.

## **Runaway Child**

According to the police department, the child's father reported her missing, stating that she was last seen at her home at around 1:00 a.m. on Monday, April 18.

Samijah attends the Bertha C. Boshulte Middle School, according to police.

If you know of Samijah's whereabouts or have seen her, the V.I.P.D. is asking that you contact the Juvenile Bureau at 340-715-5540, 340-715-5541, 340-715-5542 or call 911.

## **Missing Woman**

On Saturday, April 16, at approximately 6:10 p.m. the Major Crime Unit received information of a person reported missing. The MCU was informed that a Hispanic female who was later identified as Eduviges Mercedes Amparo, was last seen at her residence located in the Market Square area in St. Thomas at approximately 5:30 p.m. on April 15.

MCU detectives were informed that Amparo told her significant other that she was going to the grocery store near their residence. However, she never returned home on the evening of Friday, April 15.

The V.I.P.D. is asking anyone who has information relative to Amparo's disappearance to contact the Criminal Investigation Bureau at 340-774-2211 ext. 5552, 5553, 5554, or 5555, the Major Crime Unit Cell phone at 340-642-8449, or Crime Stoppers USVI with an anonymous tip here.

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