

The Virgin Islands Consortium

St. John Contractor Arrested After Giving Employees Worthless Checks

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Jerome Joseph By. THE VIRGIN ISLANDS POLICE DEPARTMENT

ST. JOHN — On Friday at approximately 7 a.m., V.I.P.D. detectives with the Economic Crimes Unit arrested Jerome Joseph, age 46 of Estate Pastory, St. John, on a warrant for six counts each of drawing and delivering worthless checks and obtaining money by false pretense.

According to V.I.P.D. Public Information Officer Toby Derima, on Oct. 7, 2019, six men who were employees of StrongHouse Construction, LLC, a business owned by Mr. Joseph, filed a police report in reference to receiving worthless checks. The men

indicated that they performed construction work for Mr. Joseph during the month of August 2019. They said that they received their paychecks that were postdated for Oct. 3, 2019. The men indicated on Oct. 2, 2019, Mr. Joseph notified them not to cash their checks, since he had no money to pay them and he did not know when he would be able to pay them.

On Nov. 8, 2019 Mr. Joseph admitted to detectives that when he wrote the checks, he knew he did not have enough money in his bank accounts to cover them.

Unable to make bail of \$25,000, Mr. Joseph was remanded to the Bureau of Corrections pending his advisement hearing.