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Woman Wields Sledgehammer in Post-Jouvert Rage, Damages Ex's Property

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Mugshot of Kymora Francis. By. THE VIRGIN ISLANDS POLICE DEPARTMENT.

ST. THOMAS — A woman was arrested after a violent outburst at the home of a former lover, which resulted in significant property damage.

According to court documents, on Thursday at approximately 1:14 p.m., officers of the V.I. Police Department were dispatched to a residence in Estate Tutu, in response to a burglary report. Upon arrival, they met a man who informed them that earlier that day, he had hired two contractors to perform construction work on his home while he attended Jouvert, which is part of St. Thomas Carnival festivities. While at the street parade, the man reportedly met Kymora Francis, a woman with whom he said he had shared an intimate relationship for over a year.

The man told officers that during Jouvert, Francis, whom the VIPD's probable cause fact sheet identified as being married, approached him aggressively, demanding to know why he didn't stop to speak with her. The man said he told her that he was attending the event with someone else and walked away.

Police heard that when the man returned home around noon, he saw Mrs. Francis's vehicle parked in front of his residence. To avoid confrontation, he left the area to drop his passenger home. While he was gone, however, one of his contractors called to inform him that a woman was causing damage to his property. "It has a lady here mashing up your windows to your house... broke the door with a sledgehammer and your two vehicles," the contractor reportedly told the homeowner, who says he returned to the scene to assess the situation.

Both contractors told police they witnessed the incident. One reported hearing a loud noise and a female voice while working at the back of the residence. He walked to the front of the house and saw the woman drive off, only to circle back and continue damaging the property. The other contractor said the woman told him "Tell him I did it, my name is Kim!" before leaving the scene.

The man gave police directions to Mrs. Francis's Anna's Retreat residence, where she was arrested after declining to give a statement on the matter. She was charged with destruction of property, damage to a vehicle, and disturbance of the peace.

Under domestic violence laws, Kymora Francis was denied bail and remanded to the Bureau of Corrections pending her advice of rights hearing which was scheduled for Friday, April 28. Court records available as of press time indicate that Mrs. Francis may have been released on an unsecured bond prior to her trial. Her arraignment is scheduled for May 12.