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## Virgin Islands to Celebrate National Police Week with Array of Activities

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National Police Week celebrations will be observed in the territory starting May 12, with the Virgin Islands Police Department announcing plans to commemorate and honor the men and women who have answered the call to protect and serve the community.

Activities on St. Thomas/St. John begin today Friday, with the crowning of Mr. & Miss Law Enforcement at 7:00 pm at Catherine Berge.

On Saturday, May 13, the Bovoni Range will host the “Who’s on Target” firearms competition at 9:00 a.m., and at 12 noon the Mother’s Day Raffle draw will take place at the same location. The next day, gift baskets will be presented to the mothers in the VIPD as part of Mother’s Day celebrations.

On Monday May 15 – National Police Memorial Day – there will be a law enforcement parade and laying of the wreath at Griffith’s Park on Veteran’s Drive area up to the Alexander Farrelly Justice Complex, starting at 3:00 p.m., followed by a short memorial program at the Complex beginning at 6:00 p.m. On St. Croix, Police Memorial Day will feature a motorcade moving off from the Patrick Sweeney Headquarters Parking Lot at 7:00 a.m., followed by a peace officer memorial ceremony at 10:00 a.m. at the police pavilion. The day will close on St. Croix with a candlelight vigil at the Ann Abrahamson Marine Facility at 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday is Open House Day - all police zones will be open on St. Thomas/St. John from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., while on St. Croix the Ancilmo Marshall Command will host an open house from 11:00 a.m. At 6:00 p.m. on the evening of May 16, the VIPD will face the Attorney General’s Office to battle for bowling supremacy.

The next day, the open house continues on St. Croix, this time at the Special Operations Bureau’s K9 building, followed by a kickball game at 6:00 p.m. on the Castle Coakley softball field. On St. John, students from kindergarten through fourth grade will be treated to a Career Day, and on St. Thomas, the public can participate in a costume karaoke fun night at Kartion Racing on Estate Thomas, featuring a battle of VIPD DJs.

On Thursday May 18, St. Thomas students in kindergarten through fourth grade will have their Career Day at the Joseph Aubain Ball Park in Frenchtown, starting at 10:00 a.m. The ball park will also host a game night for law enforcement officers that evening from 8:00 p.m. Meanwhile on St. Croix, the Police Pavilion will host an evening of “Reminiscing with the Retirees”, beginning at 6:00 p.m.

Next week Friday, May 19, the Wilber Francis Command police station on St. Croix will host an open house from 11:00 a.m., while at 6:00 p.m. that evening the action moves to the Castle Coakley Ball Park for a softball game. On St. Thomas, a “Funky Fly & Fresh” Old School night only for Law Enforcement Officers will take place on the Kon Tiki.

The Criminal Investigation Bureau’s annual pig roast is slated for Saturday May 20 - 11:00 a.m. at Altona Lagoon, while Police Week celebrations wrap up on Sunday May 21 on St. Thomas with a LEO-only ride-out of motorcycles, convertibles, and bugs from Fort Christian Parking lot to Magen’s Bay Beach, followed by a Family Beach Day at Magen’s Bay Shed #1, starting at 1 pm.