

The Virgin Islands Consortium

V.I.P.D. Urging Caution Following Report of Attempted Kidnappings on St. Croix

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VIPD Vehicle By. ERNICE GILBERT/VI CONSORTIUM

ST. CROIX — The Virgin Islands Police Department is urging residents of the territory, particularly St. Croix, to be vigilant following an attempted kidnapping report filed with the department. Talk of at least two attempts — one in Estate Grove Place and another in Hanna's Rest — have been making the rounds on social media.

The V.I.P.D. on Sunday night said that on Thursday at approximately 6:53 p.m., the 911 Emergency Call Center received a report of an attempted kidnapping in Estate Hannah's Rest.

The report indicated that the victim was forced into a white van by two males wearing ski masks, but she managed to escape her attackers.

This case is being investigated, according to police. If you have information that may lead to the arrest of the perpetrator or perpetrators, call 911, the Crime TipLine at (340) 778-4950, or send an anonymous tip to Crime Stoppers USVI [here](#).

The V.I.P.D. said it was aware of information being circulated on social media about this and other apparent incidents. Members of the community can help police and themselves by following these steps to prevent being a victim:

- Be aware of your surroundings. Avoid being distracted by your phone, and do not use headphones or earbuds until you are at your destination.
- Do not accept rides from strangers. Once you get into a stranger's car, you are at their mercy. They could either incapacitate you or hold you hostage and you might not have an opportunity to defend yourself.
- Trust your instincts. If things do not feel right, trust your gut and seek help.