



VIRGIN ISLANDS POLICE DEPARTMENT

Office of the Police Commissioner

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PRESS RELEASE

Drowning at Hull Bay Under Investigation

ST. THOMAS, USVI – On October 17, at 9:19 p.m., the 911 Emergency Call Center received a report from a concerned citizen regarding a male going for a swim in Hull Bay and not returning to shore. Police officers search of the Hull Bay area was unsuccessful.

On October 18, at 6:33 a.m. – police officers, St. Thomas Rescue, and the U.S. Coast Guard – resumed its search for the missing swimmer; and at 9:17 a.m., local divers in the waters off Hull Bay recovered the body of a man identified as 40-year-old Benjamin Rabbani. Pending an autopsy, the cause of death is unknown at this time.

Detectives are asking anyone who may have seen Rabbani swimming on October 17, or who may have seen what happened to him, to call 911, the Criminal Investigation Bureau at (340) 774-2211, or Crime Stoppers USVI at (800) 222-8477 or online at crimestoppersusvi.org.

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All individuals listed as arrested or charged with a crime in this press release are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

The Bryan-Roach Administration is investing in the Territory's people, infrastructure and future through transparency, stabilizing the economy, restoring trust in the government and ensuring that recovery projects are completed as quickly as possible. Visit transparency.vi.gov.