



THE VIRGIN ISLANDS POLICE DEPARTMENT

“To Protect and Serve”

Office of the Commissioner

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For Immediate Media Distribution

MAN ARRESTED FOR POSSESSION OF UNLICENSED FIREARM

St. Thomas, USVI- On Monday, March 14, 2023, at approximately 5:20 p.m., VIPD officers were conducting traffic stops on Frenchman’s Bay Road leading towards Havensight. While initiating traffic stops, a gray Toyota Corolla immediately exited the lane of traffic, turned around and drove off in the opposite direction. Officers immediately responded to the fleeing vehicle who was now entering the oncoming lane of traffic trying to evade the officers who were in pursuit.

The driver entered the Havensight area at a high rate of speed ignoring fellow motorists and pedestrians alike, as he ran through red lights headed towards the area of Yacht Haven Grand. Officers were able to pass the suspect as well as position their police vehicles behind of the suspects car to enclose the area and slow him down.

The suspect was able to maneuver his vehicle into the entrance of Pearson Gardens where he drove towards the area of the basketball courts. He then jumped out of the vehicle with a bag in his possession and ran towards a short cut that led towards the area of Charlotte Amalie Highschool.

Officers pursued the suspect on foot towards 6th street where the suspect tossed the bag he was carrying into the residence of an unknown citizen. The unknown citizen upon seeing the bag enter their residence immediately kicked the bag back outside where officers was able to retrieve it. The suspect continued to cut in between homes until he made it to 8th street where he was apprehended.

In the bag discarded by the suspect was a firearm belonging to the alleged girlfriend of the suspect who stated that the weapon was stolen. An extended clip and rounds for the weapon were also recovered. Bail was set at \$237,500.00 for 33-year-old Akeem Elms. Unable to post bail the suspect was remanded to the Bureau of Corrections pending his advice of rights hearing.

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