



THE VIRGIN ISLANDS POLICE DEPARTMENT

“To Protect and Serve”

Office of the Commissioner

VIPD NEWS RELEASE - 042023-114

For Immediate Media Distribution

April 20, 2023

Man Charged for Illegal Importation of Firearm on St. Thomas

St. Thomas, USVI - As part of an ongoing criminal investigation, it was revealed that Jakel J. Bell engaged in the Illegal Importation of a Firearm without a License and aided and abetted the importation of the firearms(s). Mr. Bell also conspired to import the firearms(s) without a license with the assistance from another. An arrest warrant was issued by the Magistrate Court, St. Thomas/St. John District and 29-year-old, Jakel Bell was taken into custody without incident on April 20, 2023. Bell was charged with Importation of a Firearm Without a License, Aiding and Abetting and Conspiracy to Import Firearms without a License. Bail was \$75,000.00. Bell was turned over to the Bureau of Corrections pending his Advice of Rights.

This case is presently under investigation by the Criminal Investigation Bureau. Anyone with information regarding this incident can contact the Criminal Investigation Bureau at (340)774-2211, ext. 5576/5572. They can also contact 911, Crime Stoppers V.I. at 1(800)222-TIPS, the Chief's Office at (340)715-5548 or the Commissioner's Office at (340)715-5506.

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Administrative Services Building 45 Mars Hill, Frederiksted St. Croix, 00840 * (340) 778-2211

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