

## Man Charged With Assaulting Pregnant Girlfriend After She Rebuffed His Sexual Advances

Police said Azzioni Mack slapped his girlfriend, squeezed her neck until she could not breathe and threw her to the floor, causing her to land on her abdomen while four months pregnant. Officers noted red neck marks, a scraped knee and a broken bra strap.

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Mugshot of Azzioni Mack. By. THE VIRGIN ISLANDS POLICE DEPARTMENT.

ST. CROIX — A Lorraine Village man faces felony domestic-violence charges after police said his girlfriend, who was four months pregnant, reported that he slapped her, squeezed her neck until she could not breathe and threw her to the floor, causing her to land on her abdomen.

Azzioni Mack was arrested Friday and charged with second-degree assault as a crime of domestic violence, simple assault and battery, and disturbance of the peace. Magistrate Christopher Timmons found probable cause Monday to uphold the charges and set bail at \$50,000.

Police were called to Lorraine Village on Friday night following a reported assault.

Responding officers met with a woman who said Mr. Mack had returned home earlier that evening and begun making unwanted sexual advances toward her. When she told him she was not interested, he stopped touching her but became angry and disconnected her phone from the wireless internet signal.

A verbal dispute followed, during which Mr. Mack allegedly slapped the woman across the face.

She told police that she warned him she would call the authorities if he struck her again. Mr. Mack then reportedly placed his hands around her neck and squeezed, cutting off her air supply.

The woman said she kicked Mr. Mack while attempting to free herself from his grip. After he released her, she tried to leave the apartment, but he allegedly grabbed her by the shirt and forcefully threw her to the ground.

The woman said she landed on her abdomen. She was nevertheless able to get up immediately and run to her brother's nearby residence, where she called 911.

Officers documented a small scrape on her knee, a broken bra strap and faint red marks around her neck.

Police later questioned Mr. Mack, who declined to provide a statement. He was arrested and remanded into custody pending his advice-of-rights hearing.

During Monday's court proceeding, Magistrate Timmons set bail at \$50,000. Mr. Mack must post 10 percent in cash to secure his release, with the remaining amount signed as an unsecured bond.

His next court appearance is scheduled for August 5.