

VIPD Warns of St. Croix Burglary and Home Invasion Spike After Nine Break-Ins Reported in One Day

VIPD says nine burglaries were reported in one day, mostly in La Grande Princesse, as business break-ins and home invasions increase. Police say some victims were restrained and had phones or electronics taken to delay calls for emergency assistance.

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ST. CROIX — The V.I. Police Department has increased patrols in several St. Croix communities after nine burglaries were reported in a single day, as authorities investigate a broader rise in commercial break-ins, residential burglaries and home invasion robberies.

Most of the nine burglaries occurred in La Grande Princesse, while one was reported in Frederiksted, according to VIPD. In the business break-ins, suspects forced their way inside by

breaking glass doors and windows.

Police said the suspects appear to be young individuals who conceal their identities by wearing dark clothing, hoodies, ski masks, face coverings and other items that obscure their appearance.

In the reported incidents, suspects demanded money and valuables before leaving with personal property.

No life-threatening injuries have been reported. However, police said some victims were restrained, while their phones and other electronic devices were taken to delay calls for assistance.

VIPD said investigators are working to identify and apprehend those responsible and urged residents and business owners to remain vigilant and immediately report suspicious activity.

Businesses Urged to Strengthen Security

Police advised businesses to install and maintain high-quality surveillance systems covering entrances, exits, cash registers, storage rooms and other locations where valuables are kept.

Business owners should also ensure that alarm systems are operational and immediately report suspicious people or vehicles.

Residents Advised to Secure Homes

Residents are being encouraged to keep doors and windows secured and avoid opening their doors to unknown individuals, particularly late at night or during the early morning.

Anyone who hears someone attempting to enter a home should move to a safe location, when possible, and call 911 immediately.

Anyone with information about the burglaries or home invasions is asked to contact 911 or VIPD at 340-778-2211. Anonymous tips may be submitted to Crime Stoppers USVI at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477).

VIPD thanked the community for its continued cooperation and urged the public to remain alert while the investigations continue.