



GOVERNMENT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS OF THE UNITED STATES

-----0-----

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND NATURAL RESOURCES

4611 Tutu Park Mall
Suite 300, 2nd Floor
St. Thomas, VI 00802
(340) 774-3320

45 Mars Hill, Frederiksted
St. Croix, VI 00840
(340) 773-1082
dpnr.vi.gov



Office of the Commissioner

Contact: Jamal Nielsen, Media Relations Coordinator
jamal.nielsen@dpnr.vi.gov

Monday, September 14, 2026

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BOATING INCIDENT REPORTED DURING FUN RUN MARINE EVENT

Commissioner Jean-Pierre L. Oriol of the Department of Planning and Natural Resources is notifying the public of a vessel-related incident that occurred on Sunday, September 13, 2026, shortly before 2:00 p.m. during the Fun Run Marine event.

Emergency dispatch received a 911 call reporting the incident. According to initial reports, bystanders observed an individual in the water, recovered the individual, and transported them to the designated staging area.

Upon arrival, Fire and Emergency Medical Services personnel immediately initiated life-saving measures. The individual was then transported to Juan F. Luis Hospital for further medical treatment.

Despite the efforts of first responders and medical personnel, the individual later succumbed to their injuries. The deceased has been identified as David Pryce, 36 years old. Notification of next of kin has been made.

The circumstances surrounding the incident remain under review. Authorities continue to gather information regarding the events leading up to the accident.

The Department reminds the boating community that safe vessel operation is essential at all times, particularly during organized marine events where increased vessel traffic may be present. The Division of Environmental Enforcement continues to conduct patrols and enforce territorial boating laws and regulations, including requirements related to vessel operation, navigation, safety equipment, and prudent boating practices. Boaters are encouraged to exercise caution, maintain situational awareness, and operate their vessels responsibly to help prevent accidents and protect lives on the water.

DPNR extends its condolences to the family, friends, and loved ones of David Pryce during this difficult time.

Additional information will be released as it becomes available and as appropriate.