

## **PRESS RELEASE**

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## Virgin Islands Anti-Crime Summit to Launch With Youth Rally

Release Date: 14 August, 2025



The National Security Council (NSC) will officially launch the Virgin Islands Anti-Crime Summit with a Youth Rally this Friday, August 15.

The Territory's youth, youth groups and organisations are invited to join with the rally that will pave the way for the hosting of the Virgin Islands Anti-Crime Summit to be held from September 24 to 26 under theme, "Our Virgin Islands: Safe Communities, Prosperous Territory."

The Youth Rally will commence with a march of youth groups and organisations from the Road Town Police Station at 6:30 p.m. to the Huntum's Ghut Basketball Court as they demonstrate their commitment to taking a stand against crime in the Territory.

The rally set to begin at 7:00 p.m., will feature the launch of the official theme song, inspiring anti-crime testimonies, live performances, a three-point shootout basketball competition with officials and youth, and prizes and giveaways.

Statistics from the Royal Virgin Islands Police Force reveal that as of June this year, 38 cautions were issued to juveniles, and 21 arrests were made with charges laid spanning multiple categories of criminal activity. Parents and guardians, who demand a safer Virgin Islands for their children are therefore encouraged to attend Friday's Youth Rally.

The increase in crime trends across the Territory continues to be a growing concern and Government of the Virgin Islands and the NSC remains committed to working hand-in-hand with key strategic partners across all sectors to foster the collaboration needed to reduce every category of crime.

The National Security Council NSC considers matters relating to internal security, any significant security developments and criminal activity. The council is comprised of the Governor, as Chairman, and members, including the Premier, the Minister for Communications and Works, the Attorney General and the Commissioner of Police.