



VIRGIN ISLANDS PORT AUTHORITY

ST. CROIX | ST. THOMAS | ST. JOHN UNITED STATES VIRGIN ISLANDS
GATEWAYS TO THE U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS' ECONOMY

NEWS RELEASE

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VIPA CONFIRMS THAT COAST GUARD DENIED ENTRY TO GRANDEUR OF THE SEAS CRUISE SHIP

The Virgin Islands Port Authority confirmed today that the U.S. Coast Guard denied Royal Caribbean's Grandeur of the Seas' request to berth at the Austin "Babe" Monsanto Marine Terminal in Crown Bay, St. Thomas. The request was denied based on the captain's report that a crew member on board the Grandeur of the Seas had traveled to Japan within the last 14 days. Though there was no confirmed case of coronavirus on the ship, the ship's request to berth was denied by the Coast Guard in the interest of public health safety for the residents of the U.S. Virgin Islands.

However, the U.S. Coast Guard in conjunction with the V.I. Department of Health (VIDOH) did allow the ship to return to Crown Bay at 2:15 p.m. today to allow a seriously injured passenger onboard the Grandeur of the Seas to be treated at the Roy L. Schneider Hospital (RLSH) on St. Thomas. The passenger was removed from the ship by VIDOH personnel to be transported to the hospital for treatment. None of the other passengers or crew on board the ship was allowed

disembark on St. Thomas. The injured passenger is being treated at RLSH. The ship departed at 2:50 p.m.

VIPA assures the public that it is working closely with the VI Department of Health and the U.S. Coast Guard, and that all safety precautions are being implemented at its port facilities.

For more information on COVID-19, the new strain of the coronavirus, please visit the USVI Department of Health's website, doh.vi.gov/coronavirus or text COVID19USVI to 888777. [#COVID19USVI](https://twitter.com/COVID19USVI)

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The Virgin Islands Port Authority (VIPA) is an autonomous, self-sustaining government agency established in 1969 as the owner and manager of the United States Virgin Island's airports and seaports. VIPA owns and manages 14 seaports, two airports, and surrounding properties. It is a critical arm of the USVI's economy that facilitates travel and commerce and fosters tourism and economic growth via its port activities. VIPA's mandate is to develop and maintain the ports of the USVI to accommodate the current and future demands of our users and to provide safe port facilities. Follow us on [Facebook](#) or [Twitter](#).