GOVERNMENT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

PRESS RELEASE

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MSIRA Publishes First Marine Safety Report

Release Date: 30 September, 2025



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(MV Andato Incident)

The Marine Safety Investigation and Reporting Authority (MSIRA) has published its inaugural Marine Safety Report, highlighting the need for boaters to exercise safety at sea.

The report focuses on the incident involving the MV Andato. This high-performance centre console vessel capsised on 25th May, 2025, at Leverick Bay, just before the start of the annual Leverick Bay Poker Run.

Chief Marine Safety Accident Investigator (CMAI), in the Premier's Office, Mr. Jerome Padmore, said the purpose of the report is to raise public awareness by transparently examining the causes of marine accidents and the lessons they reveal about vessel operations, construction standards, and adherence to existing regulations. *"This report is not about blame, but about learning and improving. By understanding what went wrong, we can take steps to prevent similar accidents and strengthen maritime safety across the Virgin Islands."*

Mr. Padmore further stated, that the report emphasises the importance of practicing proper safety standards and identifies areas where laws, enforcement, and industry practices can be improved. He said by promoting accountability, encouraging international compliance, and identifying opportunities for reform, it aims to strengthen the safety culture within the Virgin Islands' maritime sector and reduce the likelihood of future accidents.

According to the Chief Marine Safety Accident Investigator, by publishing this report, the MSIRA aims to ensure that all stakeholders, from recreational boaters to commercial operators, understand the risks associated with high-performance craft and the importance of adhering to safe practices at sea.

The MSIRA will continue to release such reports in the interest of transparency, education, and the continuous improvement of maritime safety standards within the Territory.

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About:

The Marine Safety Investigation and Reporting Authority (MSIRA) operates under the Premier’s Office and is the official body responsible for the independent investigation of marine accidents and incidents within the territorial waters of The Virgin Islands. Guided by the Merchant Shipping (Accident Reporting and Investigation) Regulations, 2020 and the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) Casualty Investigation Code, MSIRA's primary objective is to enhance maritime safety through fact-based investigations, the identification of safety issues, and the issuance of recommendations aimed at preventing future occurrences. MSIRA investigations do not seek to apportion blame or establish liability.

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Additional Documents or Media

- msira_#1_of_2025_safety_accident_report_mv_andato.pdf
- vf_report_on_mv_andata_incident_published.pdf