



Parliament of Sint Maarten

Staten van Sint Maarten

To the Hon. Minister of Justice
Mr. E.J. Doran
Administration Building
Clem Labega Square
Philipsburg

UV/204/2019-2020

Philipsburg, February 27, 2020

Re: Questions from MP S.A. Wescot-Williams regarding vehicle theft

Hon. Minister Doran,

Herewith I submit to you questions posed by Member of Parliament, Mrs. S.A. Wescot-Williams pursuant to article 62 of the Constitution and article 69 of the Rules of Order of the Parliament of Sint Maarten.

The letter is self-explanatory.

Yours truly,

R. Brison
President of Parliament



Sarah A. Wescot-Williams

Member of Parliament Sint Maarten

STATEN VAN SINT MAARTEN	
Ingek. 25 FEB 2020	
Volgnr.	15/616/19-20
Par.	<i>H</i> <i>ing</i>

To:
Parliament of Sint Maarten
Attention: President of Parliament
Wilhelminastraat #1
Philipsburg, St. Maarten

Philipsburg, February 19, 2020

Dear Honorable President of Parliament,

I hereby submit to you questions directed to Minister of Justice, Honorable Egbert J. Doran, regarding vehicular theft on St. Maarten.

I kindly ask that these be forwarded.

Respectfully,

Sarah A. Wescot-Williams,
Member of Parliament
United Democratic (UD) Party



Sarah A. Wescot-Williams

Member of Parliament Sint Maarten

Minister of Justice
Honorable Egbert J. Doran
Government Administration Building
Philipsburg, Sint Maarten

Philipsburg, February 19th, 2020

Ref: Vehicle thefts

Honorable Minister Doran,

On February 17, 2020, the Parliament of Sint Maarten met in a closed door session with representatives of a task force that has taken up the issue of car thefts on St. Maarten to discuss *the drastic spike in vehicle thefts on St. Maarten*. This meeting took place on request of these representatives.

During this session, the representatives presented an alarming picture of the incidents of car thefts on St. Maarten. During the aforementioned session, MPs were also apprised of:

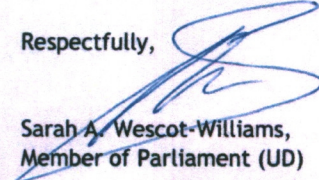
- This group's efforts to bring this situation to the attention of the relevant authorities;
- Commitment of all parties involved to deal with the matter of car thefts expeditiously and uniformly.

Please see attached article dating back to 2016. Parliament also learned on Feb 17th, that notwithstanding this announcement in 2016, nothing has come of its implementation.

- 1) Can the Minister explain why, and if this project will still be implemented?
- 2) It was also ascertained that a new type of motor vehicle registration (MVR) was recently approved by the Council of Ministers. Can the Minister confirm and if so, what project for a MVR was approved and what does this entail?
- 3) See attached Guidelines for vehicle theft punishment in the Netherlands . Do such guidelines exist for the local public prosecutor's office? If so, please share.

I look forward to your response.

Respectfully,


Sarah A. Wescot-Williams,
Member of Parliament (UD)

Wilhelminastraat #1, Philipsburg, Sint Maarten
Tel: +1 (721) 542-0812 / +1 (721) 542-2929
Email: sarah.wescot-williams@sxmparliament.org | www.sxmparliament.org

Richtlijn voor strafvordering diefstal voertuigen (2016R014)

In deze beleidsregel

- Beschrijving

Categorie

- strafvordering

Rechtskarakter

Aanwijzing i.d.z.v. artikel 130, lid 4 Wet RO

Van

College van procureurs-generaal

Aan

Hoofden van de OM-onderdelen

Registratienummer

2016R014

Datum inwerkingtreding

1 januari 2017

Publicatie in Staatscourant

2016, 67386, 2016, 67386-n1

Vervallen

Richtlijn diefstal voertuigen (2015R012)

Relevante beleidsregels

Richtlijn voor strafvordering bij meerderjarige veelplegers (in het bijzonder de vordering van de ISD-maatregel bij stelselmatige daders) (2013R017).

[\(https://www.om.nl/@86249/richtlijn-14/\)](https://www.om.nl/@86249/richtlijn-14/)

Kader voor strafvordering en OM-afdoeningen (2015A001).

Wetsbepalingen

art. 310 en 311 *Wetboek van Strafrecht (Sr)*

Bijlagen

-

Beschrijving

Uitgangspunt is tevens dat de (totale) schade is/wordt vergoed

Strafverzwarend onder andere:

Medeplegen of diefstal op bestelling

Hogere waarde van het voertuig (waarde is incl. (beoogde) inhoud)

Georganiseerd verband (bijv. inladen meerdere (brom)fietsen)

*let op taakstrafverbod (art. 22b *Sr*) en of er sprake is van een (zeer actieve) veelpleger of stelselmatige *dader*

.....
Legenda

Afkortingen

GB = Geldboete

TS = *Taakstraf*

GS = gevangenisstraf

ov = onvoorwaardelijk

5j = recidive binnen 5 jaar

2j = recidive binnen 2 jaar

Voor een toelichting op enkele begrippen genoemd bij de **Bijzonderheden** zie de *Aanwijzing* kader voor strafvordering en OM-afdoeningen.


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The Daily Herald

RUMS. HOT SAUCES. HISTORY
GUAVABERRY
THE GUAVABERRY EMPORIUM

TRUMP QUESTIONS NATO, P. 29

Obama Presses Castro On Human Rights Page 36



DREAM IN GREEN
Heineken

VOL 25 NO.257

Tuesday, March 22, 2016

U.S. 0.75 CENTS / NAf. 1.50 / EC\$ 1.75

Police work towards regulating bill of sale

PHILIPSBURG--Police in collaboration with several entities on both sides of the island are attempting to regulate the bill of sale for second-hand vehicles on May 1.

In a press conference on Monday, Police explained the reasons for the policy change and said they had the support of the St. Maarten Insurance Association, Government IT Department, the

Department of Communications, the Inspection Department, the Receiver's Office, the French-side Gendarmerie, Simpson Bay Service Centre and the Prosecutor's Office.

In the past anyone selling a vehicle could easily make their own bill of sale, sometimes even handwritten ones, and the vehicle would be transferred between the seller and the buyer without any possible control or real-time information about the vehicle, the buyer or seller. Regulating this document removes the uncertainties relating to ownership of the vehicle and protects the buyer from possibly purchasing a stolen vehicle and losing his or her hard-earned money in the process, according to the police.

The press conference was attended by police spokesman Chief Inspector Ricardo Henson.

Continued on page 10

Jet Ski home invaders shoot homeowner

POINT PIROUETTE--Two men on a Jet Ski invaded a home in Point Piroquette early Monday morning, shooting and further physically assaulting the homeowner. The assaulted man was sent to the French-side hospital for further treatment after he was stabilised at St. Maarten Medical Center (SMMC).

It is still unclear whether anything was stolen from the residence, according to the police report.

The Special Robbery Unit of the Police Force is investigating the case, in which no arrest has been made yet.

The culprits arrived at the home via Simpson Bay Lagoon on a Jet Ski. They gained access to the residence with the intention to

commit robbery, but were confronted by the homeowner. After assaulting him, one of the unknown suspects shot the man at the back of his head with a small-calibre weapon.

Police, detectives, paramedics and Coast Guard were sent to the scene to investigate the incident.

The Forensic Department also was on the scene collecting evidence for further investigation.

Rowdy nightclub owner lands in jail

OVER THE BANK--The owner of Son Latino Bar found himself in jail after he refused to shut down his establishment and insulted Police on Sunday morning.

The bar was open at 3:50am which is after its permitted closure time of 3:30am. Police arrived on the scene to investigate why the bar was still open. The owner E.G. (51) refused their order to close the bar, got on the microphone and began insulting the officers.

The man attempted to resist arrest, but was eventually put in handcuffs and taken to the Police Station for questioning.

The establishment was closed down by Police.

Numerous times in the past residents had called Police to close the bar.



SVZ representative Orianda Hoendervangers-Rojer, Fritz Pantophlet, Health Minister Emil Lee and DMR Corporation representative Dr. Angel Pardo.

SVZ donates custom made wheelchair to paraplegic

PHILIPSBURG--Social and Health Insurance SVZ has donated a new custom made wheelchair to its "well known customer" paraplegic Fritz Pantophlet.

Minister of Public Health Emil Lee, DMR Corporation representative Dr. Angel Pardo and SVZ representative Orianda Hoendervangers-Rojer recently presented the wheelchair to Pantophlet.

Pantophlet's current health care needs stem from his spinal cord injury combined with a diabetic condition and weight management.

SVZ said the new wheelchair

will make "a significant impact" in Pantophlet's quality of life. The insurance company provider said the most important aspect of any wheelchair is appropriate

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IN BRIEF

- **Amsterdam TOP 50 OF KLM**
St. Maarten is one of the 50 most favourite destinations in KLM's iFly Magazine. Page 3
- **Cole Bay BEATING OF CREW**
Saturday's Causeway Jump-Up did not end so well for a 17-year-old held in connection with the recent beating of a cruise ship crew member. Page 4
- **Philipsburg LIGHT UP THE ROAD**
The theme for this year's Lighting Up the Road Parade on April 9 is "Clash of the Titans." Page 5

For all your electrical needs!
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Beauty
See Inside

Regulating bill of sale

Continued from page 1.

Insurance Association representatives, Chief Inspector B. Gout, Inspectors and Community Police Officers D. Chandler and E. Josepha.

This project seeks to stan-

dardise the document for buyers of second-hand vehicles to protect them from purchasing unsuspected stolen vehicles, which usually results in a loss of their investment.

According to Officer Chandler, "As of June 2015, a spike in car theft was noticed. After an in-depth analysis was carried out by the Police Force, it was uncovered that there was an alarming number of reported stolen cars on both Dutch and French sides of the island. Statistics further indicated that between January 1, 2013, and June 1, 2015, approximately 400 vehicles were reported stolen on the Dutch side of the island and approximately 700 vehicles on the French side during the same period.

"While several of these vehicles were never recovered, investigations showed that the stolen vehicles were not shipped off-island. What was discovered was that car theft was a lucrative business.

"Once the vehicle is stolen the VIN numbers are then altered and then re-sold or the vehicle was stolen and immediately re-sold several times within a short period, so that tracing it back to the original owner is almost impossible and the vehicle eventually ends up back into circulation with a new owner who most times is unaware that the vehicle they have purchased was stolen property."

After internal discussions, a plan of action on how best to tackle the problem was formed.

"Our goal was to curb car theft on the island," Chandler said. "In reaching this



Police and St. Maarten Insurance Association representatives at the Philipsburg police station after announcing the intention to formalise the bill of sale for second-hand vehicles as of May 1. (Andrew Dick photo)

goal, we chose to use a different approach, by getting the parties together who are most affected by this criminal practice to work with us. This then would make our efforts more effective.

"Therefore, we met with St. Maarten Insurance Association and proposed a plan of action to them, which got them on board from the get-go, as they too have sustained hundreds of thousands of dollars in losses as a result of car theft."

It became clear that the best possible solution to curb car theft was to structure the procedure of transferring ownership of vehicles. Hence the project to change and standardise the bill of sale was born.

"All partners involved were very influential in the creation, reviewing and finalising of the document.

We moved from having a simple document transformed into an official user-friendly document. This new standardised document will be the only bill of sale accepted by all insurance companies, their agents and brokers on St. Maarten as of May 1," Chandler continued.

One of the main aspects of the new bill of sale is that it will be available only online. This document will be available only on Government's website, where you will be prompted to fill in the form and once all the required fields are completed, then you will be instructed to download and print the bill of sale. To complete the process, the document must be signed by both the buyer and seller before being taken to the insurance company.

Documents that must accompany the bill of sale when acquiring insurance for the vehicle are a copy of the seller's valid ID (valid driver's licence, ID card or

passport), copy of the buyer's valid driver's licence, copy of the vehicle's last insurance policy, copy of the vehicle inspection card, Carte Grise (original car registration document) and NAF. 5 stamp.

One other control feature of the new bill of sale is that a random 12-digit number is generated by the system which can be used later to provide proof of ownership should the vehicle be stolen and later found.

After the implementation date of May 1, insurance companies and brokers will accept only the new digital bill of sale that can be generated online, with some exceptions. The possibility also exists that documentation can be done at the Simpson Bay Service Centre, at your insurance company or broker if you do not have access to Internet service.

Other information regarding the website and how it should be used will be explained in the near future.



St. Maarten Tourist Bureau recently hosted Courtney Elko, associate editor from Family Vacation Critic, a TripAdvisor Company. Elko visited some hotel properties, restaurants, beaches and activities. She equally divided her six-day trip between the Dutch and French sides. Elko's trip was related to the joint Government-private sector "Save the Summer" campaign with TripAdvisor. The campaign will showcase specials on St. Maarten, including hotels, throughout the summer. Family Vacation Critic caters to family vacations with the objective of stimulating families to select St. Maarten for their vacation. The site's 750,000 unique visitors per month turn to Family Vacation Critic for articles and reviews around popular family destinations like St. Maarten. They are growing their destination content to better suit their audience (mostly moms, ages 25-45) and selected St. Maarten to be a part of that growth. In photo: Elko and Lisa Coffi of St. Maarten Tourist Bureau in front of the historical Courthouse.

VACANCY

Deliwo administrative Services B.V. has a vacancy for an:

Internal auditor

This position requires compliance with financial laws.

Requirements:

- A BA in Economics and an investment adviser's license is needed.
- Must be able to evaluate financial risks for the company and real investments.
- To write audit reports to be reviewed by management.
- To sit with management and help to formulate realistic budgets for the business.

A complete job description would be disclosed at interview. All certificates and or experience letters should be submitted.

DIAMONDS
INTERNATIONAL

All interested applicants should forward applications to Diamonds International Front Street #68. A copy should be dropped to the Island Labour Department. All applications should be submitted no later than March 30th, 2016.



PUBLIC NOTICE (ELECTRICITY INTERRUPTION)

N.V. G.E.B.E. regrets to inform the general public that the electricity supply to:

Almond Grove Estate

will be interrupted on **Wednesday, March 23rd, 2016** from 9:00 am until 4:00 pm.

This outage will allow us to carry out necessary maintenance to our Distribution system.

N.V. G.E.B.E. apologizes for any inconvenience this may cause.

Very truly yours
N.V. G.E.B.E.

Managing Board.

VACANCY

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