



U.S. Department of Justice

**RONALD W. SHARPE**  
*United States Attorney*  
*District of the Virgin Islands*

*Ron de Lugo Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse*  
*5500 Veterans Drive, Suite 260*  
*Charlotte Amalie*  
*St. Thomas, VI 00802-6424*

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## **PRESS RELEASE**

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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

November 4, 2011

### **LIONEL DOBSON PLEADS GUILTY TO ILLEGAL RENTRY**

**St. Thomas, USVI** -Lionel Dobson pleaded guilty today in federal court on St. Thomas to Illegal Rentry, United States Attorney Ronald W. Sharpe announced. Dobson, age 42, pleaded guilty to Count One of a two-count Information charging a violation of Title 8, United States Code, Sections 1326(a) and (b)(2).

According to a plea agreement filed with the district court, on July 12, 2011, the defendant appeared at the Cyril E. King Airport in St. Thomas attempting to travel to the mainland United States. At the Customs' inspection area, he presented a Customs and Border Protection Officer with a fraudulent Florida driver's license bearing the name Christophes Thompson, and declared himself a United States citizen. Fingerprint analysis determined that defendant's true name was Lionel Dobson, a national of Jamaica, W.I., previously removed from the United States on February 27, 2004. Dobson had not received permission from the Director of Homeland Security or from the Attorney General to reenter the United States.

According to the plea agreement, Dobson faces a maximum possible sentence of 20 years incarceration, three years supervised release, a \$100 special assessment, and a maximum possible fine of \$250,000.00. A sentencing date has been set for February 16, 2012, at 9:30 a.m..

The case was investigated by the Department of Homeland Security. This case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Everard E. Potter.