

Bulletin

15-3

Date: March 3, 2015

OFFICER OF THE MONTH – FEBRUARY 2015**SGT. MCKENNA, OFFICERS CAMPBELL, MESA, ARCH, AND HERNANDEZ**

On Thursday, February 12, 2015, officers were dispatched to 9149 Emerson Avenue reference an Aggravated Battery in progress. Dispatch reported the male subject was on scene and possibly armed with a firearm and a description of the subject (BOLO) was issued. All available Surfside Police units responded. As Officers Arch and Campbell responded to the dispatched location in emergency mode they observed a subject matching the BOLO at 92nd Street and Harding Avenue. Officer Arch confirmed the BOLO via the dispatcher and Officer Campbell advised they had the subject at their location. These officers confronted the subject with guns drawn as Sergeant Mckenna arrived on scene. The subject immediately began yelling profanities at the three uniformed officers and ignored orders to show his hands. He was hostile and acted erratically with his hands waving and moving to and from his waist causing increasing alarm. Sergeant Mckenna deployed his Taser striking the subject. The subject pulled one of the prongs from his clothing and yelled "is that all you got" as he continued his threatening movements. Officer Campbell then holstered her firearm, drew her Taser and tased the subject striking him in the torso. This time the taser was effective immediately causing the subject to fall to the ground. The subject struck his head on the concrete rendering him unconscious. Officers quickly handcuffed the subject as he regained consciousness.

As the subject was being taken into custody, Officers Hernandez and Mesa arrived at the dispatched location and found the victims (The subject's mother and daughter) both seriously injured. Miami-Dade Fire Rescue arrived to both scenes and treated the victims and the subject who were all transported to Mt. Sinai Hospital by M.D.F.R. Officer Arch maintained custody of the subject and followed Rescue. The subject's elderly mother suffered fractured hip and facial injuries. She was later airlifted to Ryder Trauma. The daughter was struck so hard she was bleeding from the ears.

The Surfside Police personnel that responded to and handled this incident from beginning to end acted in a manner that epitomizes the professionalism of our agency. Beginning with the alertness and keen observation skills displayed by Officers Campbell and Arch as they identified a dangerous felon fleeing from the crime scene, their radio procedures and tactics as they confronted the subject were exemplary. Sergeant McKenna who arrived as the subject was being challenged immediately took charge of the situation. With his experience and tactical training he did not hesitate in attempting to control the agitated subject and quickly acted by tasing the subject. The team quickly reacted when the subject pulled off a prong and a second tasing worked effectively

subduing the violent offender. In the meantime, Officers Hernandez and Mesa attended to the injured and preserved the original crime scene. Sergeant Mckenna coordinated the efforts of these officers in an efficient and effective manner maintaining control of multiple personnel and tasks needed to be completed.

I commend this group of dedicated officers and sergeant for their courage and professionalism.

HIGH ACHIEVERS – FEBRUARY 2015

Officer Gabriel
Officer Lorente
Officer Lovellette
Officer Smith
Officer Mesa

Thanks for the good work!

BYRON AVENUE TRAFFIC INITIATIVE

Town and Police Department staff met with representatives of the Florida Department of Transportation on December 18 to discuss requests from residents for the installation of traffic signals at 96 Street and Abbott Avenue, 91 Street and Collins Avenue, 92 Street and Harding Avenue, and 90 Street and Harding Avenue. FDOT reviewed and reported that 96 Street and Abbott Avenue, 91 Street and Collins Avenue, and 92 Street and Harding Avenue Town and do not meet the minimum requirements for installation. We are waiting on a response for the other intersections. PD staff and the Town Manager held a community meeting for Byron Avenue residents on January 20, 2015 on traffic issues. A Miami-Dade County Traffic Division representative was also present to answer concerns. PD had a daily detail in place during rush hour as well as temporary road closures for speed enforcement and to control cut through traffic. Although the road closures reduced the traffic intrusion onto Byron Avenue, they did create heavy traffic congestion on Abbott Avenue. Miami-Dade County will conduct a traffic count on Byron Avenue. Town staff has recommended a traffic engineering study for a more permanent solution as well as loop detections at the traffic signals on Collins and Harding Avenues. A daily detail to enforce no through trucks at 95 and Abbott Avenue is in place. Additional signage will also be installed. The PD has also issued 1291 citations and even more warnings over the past three months in the residential area in attempt to mitigate these problems.

AUTOMATED VEHICLE LOCATION SYSTEM - The installation of the AVLS has been completed in all patrol vehicles, the Community Service Aide vehicle and vehicles assigned to the Criminal Investigations Unit. The Communications Unit and all Patrol Supervisors will have the ability to view the live Track Star system and monitor vehicle activity. Administrative Directive #07-08 regarding the Vehicle Location System (AVLS) was created and distributed. All personnel were provided training on the system. The cost for the AVLS and the installation was expended from the forfeiture fund.

LAW ENFORCEMENT REACCREDITATION

The Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation has scheduled an assessment to determine the candidacy of the Surfside Police Department for reaccredited status. The full compliance assessment will be August 4-6, 2015. SPD achieved accreditation in 2009 and was reaccredited in 2012.

TRAFFIC GRANT SPD has been awarded a grant for \$12,600 from FDOT and the University of South Florida as part of the State’s Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Enforcement Campaign. The grant will pay for overtime for Police Officers to educate and enforce pedestrian and bicycle laws in the business district through May 2015.

SPECIAL INFORMATION COMMUNITY/INITIATIVES LAW ENFORCEMENT EVENTS

The supervisor staff meeting is March 10, at 5:00 pm in the training room.

The regional Criminal Investigations Unit intelligence meeting is March 12 at 10:00 am at SPD in the training room.

An ATS (Red Light Camera Safety Program) Legal briefing is March 12, 1:00-4:00 pm at 100 SE Second St. in Miami. Lt. Williams will attend.

The Cancer Awareness Relay for Life is March 14 at 2:00 pm on the beach. If you would like to participate, please contact Dina Goldstein. Officer Lorente will represent SPD with the multi-agency honor guard at the event.

The Police/ Prosecutor meeting is March 18 at 2:00 pm. Sgt. Matelis will assign a detective to attend.

The South Florida Money Laundering Strike Force is March 19 at 9:30 at the HIDTA building. Chief’s Office will attend.

The Miami-Dade County Emergency Management quarterly meeting is March 19 at 9:30 am at the Miami-Dade Fire rescue Training building. Lt. Williams will attend

SPD will host a community blood mobile March 24, 1:00-4:00 pm in the training room. Residents will be provided a variety of services including license renewal.

The Bike with the Chief Ride is March 25 25, at 5:00 pm. All are welcome to participate. The monthly Starbucks – Coffee with the Cops is March 27 at 10:00 am. Residents, business persons, and visitors can meet with the Chief and his staff over coffee to discuss community issues or provide feedback on the Police Department.

TRAINING

Senior Leadership Course – Lt. Williams
Rifle Qualifications – certain sworn officers

Weapons Retention – all sworn officers