

# Bulletin

# 18-08

Date: August 3, 2018

**OFFICERS OF THE MONTH - JULY 2018 -  
SERGEANT JAY MATELIS AND OFFICER LESMES RUIZ**

On Saturday, July 29, 2018 at approximately 0330 hrs., Sergeant Jose Matelis contacted a male walking west on 88<sup>th</sup> Street toward Harding Avenue, carrying a backpack. The male immediately appeared nervous, began sweating, and his speech was stuttered. Sergeant Matelis requested back-up assistance and the male sat down placing his bag on the ground. He spontaneously told Sergeant Matelis that he had five (5) baggies of marijuana in his bag and admitted he sells marijuana. There was approximately 12.5 grams of marijuana in the backpack. The subject also admitted to attempting to break into two vehicles prior to the police encounter in the 200 block of 88<sup>th</sup> Street and entering an unlocked vehicle in the 8800 block of Collins Avenue. He did not take anything from the vehicle because he was startled when he saw someone exit the apartment building. The subject further admitted that he was planning to enter the residential area of the Town and burglarize unlocked vehicles. The subject is currently homeless, and is on probation out of Broward County for fraud and had a bench warrant for No Valid DL. The male was charged with Auto Burglary, Loitering and Prowling, Possession of Marijuana, and the Bench Warrant. The subject has an extensive criminal past for Battery on a Law Enforcement Officer, Theft, Burglary, Fraud, and Narcotic violations. Sergeant Matelis is an exemplary patrol supervisor. Through his diligence, observation skills, and his dedication to patrol tactics, Sergeant Jose Matelis identified a subject that would have victimized countless citizens. I proudly commend Sergeant Jose Matelis for his tireless dedication, skill and commitment to the Town of Surfside and our Police Department. Congratulations to Sergeant Jay Matelis as a recipient of Officer of the Month...well deserved!

On July 16, 2018 at 0240 hours, Officer Lesmes Ruiz was patrolling the residential and observed a vehicle operating with their high beams at 90<sup>th</sup> Street and Froude Avenue. Officer Ruiz conducted a traffic stop of the vehicle and observed it to be occupied by five (5) males. Four of the five males were identified as juveniles and one as an 18-year old adult. The occupants of the vehicle stated the vehicle was a rental and that they were trying to return it but could not provide any further information about who they were returning the car to. The occupants stopped speaking to officers when asked for more details. A record check of the temporary tag attached to the vehicle did not match the VIN (vehicle identification number) on the vehicle. A further inquiry of the VIN of the vehicle revealed it was reported stolen out of Miami Gardens, FL on April 17, 2018. All five occupants of the vehicle were immediately handcuffed with the assistance of back

up officers. Officer Ruiz is to be commended for being vigilant and proactive while patrolling, stopping the vehicle and investigating the matter further. Ultimately leading to the arrest of five criminals and charging all of them with Grand Theft MV and recovering a stolen vehicle. Congratulations to Officer Lesmes Ruiz as a recipient of Officer of the Month...well deserved!

### **HIGH ACHIEVERS – JULY 2018**

Officer Donoso  
Officer Durante  
Officer McGavern  
Officer Valino

### **JULY SIGNIFICANT INVESTIGATIONS/INCIDENTS**

#### **Auto Burglary**

07/01/2018 at 0120 hours

1200 block of Biscaya Drive

An unidentified subject was captured on surveillance video approaching and entering the victim's unlocked vehicle, while it was parked in the driveway of the home. The subject took a small purse which contained coins totaling \$15.00 dollars. A Need to Identify flyer was distributed to area police departments.

#### **Disorderly Intoxication, Resisting Officer without Violence and Criminal Mischief Arrest**

07/01/2018 at 0145 hours

9500 block of Harding Avenue

Officers responded to a call of an intoxicated person who was reported to be falling into the bushes and acting belligerent. The female was located inside the restaurant smelling of alcohol and became extremely angry when approached by officers causing a disturbance in the establishment. While the female was being placed in handcuffs, she began resisting arrest which resulted in a brief struggle between her and officers. Once restrained and in the back of the police car, she tried to kick out the windows, hit her head and body against the vehicle, and eventually slipped one of her hands out of the handcuffs. Officers had to remove her from the police car to handcuff her again, which resulted in another brief struggle between the officers and the female. The female and officers were not injured as a result of this incident. She was charged with one count of disorderly intoxication, resisting officer without violence and criminal mischief.

**Lewd and Lascivious**

07/05/2018 at 1120 hours

9400 block of Collins Avenue

Officers responded to a call of a lewd and lascivious act in progress. Upon arrival, an adult female reported that while she was laying out by the pool she saw a male masturbating. The male was standing inside of the gated pool area and looking at the female while masturbating. After being observed, the male fled the area north bound on the sand hard-pack access way. Detectives obtained surveillance footage from the building and generated an Information Flyer which was distributed to area police departments.

**Commercial Burglary**

07/07/2018 at 1734 hours

9400 block of Harding Avenue

Officers responded to a call of vandalism. Upon arrival, officers noticed the front door glass shattered and a rock laying by the door in the interior of the business. Earlier in the day, a witness observed a black male holding the same rock found in the bushes loitering in the area. The subject stole money from the tip jars. An Information Flyer was generated and distributed to area police departments.

**Aggravated Assault**

07/15/2018 1815 hours

94th Street and Harding Avenue

The victim was standing on the sidewalk waiting for a vehicle to pick him up. A gray Chevrolet sedan occupied by four males ages 20 – 30 pulled up alongside of him. The passenger, leaned his body out of the vehicle's window and began yelling racial slurs at the male victim. The victim began retreating into a nearby building when the passenger pointed a handgun at him and said "Boom! Mine is loaded". A "Need to Identify" flyer was generated and distributed to area police departments.

**Auto Theft Arrest**

07/16/2018 at 0240 hours

400 block of 90th Street

While on patrol, an officer observed a suspicious vehicle driving with high beams in the residential area during the overnight hours. A traffic stop was initiated and a records check revealed the driver did not have a driver's license. Furthermore, the vehicle had been reported stolen from the City of Miami Gardens on April 17th, 2018. All five vehicle occupants were arrested.

Loitering & Prowling / Possession of Cannabis with intent to sell / Unoccupied Burglary to a Conveyance & Warrant Arrest

07/29/2018 at 0330 hours

200 block of 88<sup>th</sup> Street

While on patrol, an officer observed a suspicious male walking on foot in the residential area and initiated a stop. The male who was carrying a backpack immediately admitted to the officer that he was in possession of marijuana with the intent to sell. A search of the backpack revealed 12.5 grams of marijuana individually packaged in six small bags, one marijuana cigarette and rolling paper. Furthermore, the male admitted that prior to the stop he was checking vehicle doors and found one unlocked but did not take anything after being startled by someone who was walking out of the building. A record check revealed the male also had an active bench warrant for no valid driver's license and is on probation for fraud.

### **PERSONNEL UPDATE**

Parking Enforcement Officer Donovan Saffo will begin on August 6<sup>th</sup>. Please welcome him to the Surfside Police Department.

### **BACK TO SCHOOL**

The new school year begins on August 20, 2018. The Surfside Police Department will be assisting the Bay Harbor Islands Police Department the first week of school with security and traffic control.

### **SPECIAL INFORMATION/COMMUNITY INITIATIVES/LAW ENFORCEMENT EVENTS**

The 10<sup>th</sup> Police Teen Summer Program in conjunction with the Parks and Recreation Teen Camp concluded on August 2<sup>nd</sup> with a graduation for the teenagers. The presentations included Fundamentals of Law, K-9, Crime Scene Investigation, U.S. Customs and Borders Marine Interdiction and S.W.A.T. The teenagers also visited the U.S. Coast Guard Air Base, Miami-Dade Fire Rescue Station 25, U.S. Customs and Borders and U.S. Air Force base at the Homestead Air Force Base.

The supervisory staff meeting is August 14<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. in the training room.

The Surfside Police Department will host a Mobile Department of Motor Vehicles event for residents to apply for and renew their driver's licenses on August 16<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the Commission Chambers

The Aventura Police Department will host the Regional Criminal Investigations Unit intelligence meeting on August 23<sup>rd</sup> at 10:00 a.m. Sgt. Marian Cruz will assign a detective to attend.

The monthly Bike with the Chief Ride is August 29<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. All are welcome to participate.

The monthly Starbucks – Coffee with the Cops is August 30<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. 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 COMPLETED IN JULY**

SWAT Training - Sergeant Torres

FDLE Mandatory Retraining – All Sworn Officers

Firearms Qualifications- All Sworn Personnel

Marchman Act Training- Sgt. Matelis, Ofc. Hernandez, Ofc. Matthews, Ofc. McGavern

Employee Recognition Training – Sgt. Cruz, Sgt. Matelis

Fire and Panic Alarm, Review of Medical Cabinet, Infectious Disease, Biohazard Materials Training - Ofc. Duran

FL Appellate Court Case Law: Trespass & Juvenile - CIU

New Laws (MDPD Legal Bulletin 2018-01) - CIU

Legal Note 2018-04, Marchman Act Orders and Contact Information - CIU

**TRAINING IN AUGUST**

SWAT Training - Sergeant Torres

Handgun Tactics – Ofc. Durante