

# Bulletin

# 20-02

Date: February 6, 2020

**OFFICER OF THE YEAR - 2019 - OFFICER TAMMY CAMPBELL**

The Surfside Police Department FOP Awards Committee is honored to select Officer Tammy Campbell as the Surfside Police Department 2019 Officer of the Year. Officer Tammy Campbell joined SPD in January of 2000, in the position of Communications Operator and became a sworn police officer in August of 2004. Police Officer / Acting Sergeant Tammy Campbell is currently assigned to the Patrol Division. In 2019, Officer Campbell worked in the capacity of acting sergeant for months due to a sergeant's military activation. Officer Campbell is a respected and valued member of the Surfside Police Department. Her knowledge and experience as a police officer coupled with her ability to be both a formal and informal leader is a tremendous asset to the Surfside Police Department and community we serve. Officer Campbell performed exceptionally well while supervising a Patrol Squad for numerous months. She shined with all the added responsibility that comes with that position. Her squad members respect her and have trust in her guidance. Her supervisors have confidence she can and will handle any situation that presents itself.

The following noteworthy events are a brief look into Officer Campbell: On Thursday, July 18, 2019, patrol officers were dispatched to 9540 Collins Avenue reference an unconscious male on the construction site that was possibly electrocuted and having difficulty breathing. Acting Sergeant Campbell was the supervisor on duty, immediately responded and notified command staff of the call. Acting Sergeant Campbell proceeded to the top floor of the construction area, where paramedics were attempting to revive the male. Despite paramedics' valiant efforts the victim succumbed to his injuries and was pronounced deceased on scene. Acting Sergeant Campbell immediately assumed command of the scene, ensuring the witnesses were isolated from other workers, summoned detectives to begin their investigation and confirmed OSHA was notified of the incident. Moments later, a second call for service was broadcasted in reference to a suicidal male armed with a handgun. The male was on the telephone with a crisis counselor and parked in a black Honda CRV in the area of 94th Street and Collins Avenue. Acting Sergeant Campbell quickly coordinated a tactical response to the suicidal male call and the subject was located. She then directed a safe surrender while maintaining the safety of her officers and the subject a primary focus. The subject was taken into custody without incident. Utilizing her skills and Crisis Intervention Training, Acting Sergeant Campbell deescalated a volatile situation, managed a safe surrender and got the distressed subject the needed help. Her leadership and calmness, especially in a time of crisis, are second to none.

Officer Campbell was named Surfside Police Officer of the Month for April and July of 2019 and also nominated for the prestigious 2019 LEO Award in the Uniform Services Category. Congratulations Officer Tammy Campbell as recipient of the 2019 Surfside Police Department Officer of the Year Award...well deserved!

### **CIVILIAN OF THE YEAR - 2019 – PARKING ENFORCEMENT OFFICER JOSUE CASTRO**

The Surfside Police Department FOP Awards Committee is honored to announce Parking Enforcement Officer Josue Castro as the 2019 Surfside Police Department Civilian. Parking Enforcement Officer Josue Castro has been employed by Surfside Police Department since November 2012 and his dedication to the police department, parking enforcement section, and the community are unparalleled. Surfside community members know Josue on a first name basis and often call on him for assistance as he is always willing to lend a hand. On any given day, PEO Castro has a multitude of responsibilities and is assigned a variety of tasks as is common in a police agency like SPD. Even though his primary role is enforcement of parking violations, PEO Castro has a keen eye and has observed criminal activity while performing his regular duties. In 2019, PEO Castro issued over 2200 parking citations. He is often at the top of the Chief's Monthly High Achiever category among the parking enforcement officers. In February 2019, PEO Castro was awarded the Civilian of the Month for his awareness and quick decision-making ability. PEO Castro witnessed a vehicle driving recklessly and enter the Municipal Parking Lot at 94th Street and Harding Avenue at a high rate of speed. He then saw five (5) male subjects quickly exit the car and running. PEO Castro immediately broadcasted his observations over the police radio. Unbeknownst to him, moments earlier a Bal Harbour Officer attempted to stop a vehicle for a traffic infraction and the vehicle fled southbound on Harding Avenue. A Bal Harbour Police dispatcher broadcasted over the radio that a vehicle fled matching the description of the vehicle PEO Castro observed. Surfside Police Officers quickly responded to the area and observed two subjects running from 93rd Street. Officers pursued and took both subjects into custody without incident. Officers from surrounding agencies continued to canvass the area and located the additional three subjects. The Bal Harbour Police Department and Aventura Police Departments were investigating multiple frauds involving these same subjects. If not for the alert and quick actions demonstrated by PEO Castro, these wanted felons would have possibly escaped capture.

PEO Castro is a critical link between the police department and the community. This relationship is paramount in the day-to-day operations of the police department and even more imperative when residents and tourists alike are in need of assistance, directions, or just community information. This was evident in a letter of appreciation received from a tourist that was visiting our community. His credit card was stuck in a parking pay station and PEO Castro went to great lengths to retrieve the credit card. In November 2019, we also received a letter of appreciation from a citizen who was extremely grateful when his vehicle broke down and PEO Castro stopped to make sure he was safe and assisted him in getting back on the road. PEO Castro's genuine, kind

and giving nature drive him to consistently volunteer to participate in community events. He is also a great DJ and in 2019 he kept the spirits high in the 11th Annual Holiday Toy Giveaway event. As the 90 children anxiously awaited Santa and his crew's arrival, Josue played holiday music entertaining the crowd and once inside continued the festivities. Josue created an exciting and festive atmosphere for the children and parents' enjoyment. PEO Castro's strongest quality is his overall caring, compassion and dedication to the Town of Surfside and all persons he comes into contact with.

PEO Castro was nominated for the prestigious 2019 Law Enforcement Officers (LEO) Award in the Support Services Category for which he has been chosen as a finalist. The winners will be named in the LEO Gala Awards Ceremony on March 7, 2020. A high honor to be chosen as a finalist and recognized by the LEO Awards Committee among the top law enforcement professional in Miami-Dade County. Congratulations Parking Enforcement Officer Josue Castro as the recipient of the 2019 Surfside Police Department Civilian of the Year Award...well deserved!

#### **OFFICER OF THE MONTH – JANUARY 2020 – DETECTIVE DIANA DULANEY**

On January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020, a 90-year-old victim reported that she suspected her caregiver stole credit cards and cash from her apartment, an approximate total value of \$11,896.37 dollars in theft. Detective Dulaney was assigned as the lead investigator and did not delay in gathering evidence, knowing that time is of the essence with fraud investigations.

Detective Dulaney obtained the elderly victim's credit card statements and visited all the department stores where the fraudulent charges occurred, obtaining receipts and video surveillance from most of the stores. Detective Dulaney discovered the caretaker was in fact responsible for committing the fraudulent transactions and went on a shopping spree at Burlington Coat Factory, Macy's, Walmart, Victoria's Secret, and Publix to name a few.

On January 30<sup>th</sup>, surveillance was set up at the caretaker's residence and place of employment. Within a few hours, the caretaker was taken into custody and transported to the station for questioning.

During questioning, at first the caretaker attempted to deny that she committed the theft and fraudulent charges. However, faced with a plethora of evidence the caretaker finally admitted and confessed to committing the fraudulent charges. The caretaker stated that she took the elderly victim's credit cards and would later return them back to her thinking the elderly woman would never notice. At the conclusion of the interview, the caretaker was apologetic and offered to return the money to the elderly victim. The caretaker was arrested and charged with two counts of fraudulent use of credit card, one count of exploitation of the elderly, and one count of theft from the elderly.

State Attorney Katherine Fernandez Rundle sent out a Press Release to the news media outlets praising the actions of the Surfside Police Department who worked swiftly with the prosecutors to bring this investigation to a speedy close.

Detective Diana Dulaney's thorough investigation and tireless dedication to bring to justice a caretaker who preyed on her elderly and vulnerable patient for her own financial gain is a clear example of how this exceptional detective performs with each case assigned to her. Congratulations to Detective Diana Dulaney as the recipient of the January Officer of the Month...well deserved!

### **HIGH ACHIEVERS – JANUARY 2020**

Officer Donoso

Officer Duran

Officer Luke

Officer Valino

Parking Enforcement Officer Perez

### **SIGNIFICANT INVESTIGATIONS/INCIDENTS**

Occupied Burglary/Trespassing Construction Site Arrest

01/02/2020

9540 Collins Avenue- The Shul

Police Officers responded to a burglary in progress at the Shul. The Shul's security officers restrained/detained a subject, who was observed on the Shul's surveillance cameras roaming around the inside of the secured parking garage and entering a storage closet. The investigation revealed that the subject first gained entry to the secured construction site on the Shul property and then entered a construction office through an unlocked window which led to the parking garage area. The subject was arrested.

Auto Burglary

1/12/2020 at 1620 hours

200 block of 90<sup>th</sup> Street

Unknown subject(s) entered a vehicle parked on the north side parking lane by smashing the back window. The driver's side window was also discovered cracked. A tool bag and tool box containing power drills and hand tools were taken. Total value approximately \$2,000.00 dollars.

Suspicious Incident

01/24/2020 at 0926 hours

9580 Abbott Avenue at Young Israel Synagogue

A suspicious/unattended suitcase was located behind shrubbery on the south side of Young Israel. Young Israel security supervisors evacuated the building. The Miami-Dade Police Department Bomb Unit responded and deemed the item (luggage) safe, determining it only contained personal items.

**Super Bowl Week:**

Super Bowl events throughout Miami-Dade County led to increased vehicular traffic and pedestrians in Surfside's jurisdiction. There were no crime incidents associated with Super Bowl activities in Surfside. The Grand Beach Hotel (east and west) hosted Bud Light corporate executives that involved several short-term lane closures to accommodate coach buses loading/unloading Bud Light executives going to/from various events. SPD enhanced manpower and added bike patrols.

**Suspicious Incident**

01/27/2020 at 0926 hours

9580 Abbott Avenue at the Shul of Bal Harbour

A call was received in reference to a suspicious/unattended item (Laptop computer) located on the east-side of the Shul Synagogue on a ledge adjacent to the sidewalk. Security personnel provided video depicting a male subject leaving the item at the location several hours earlier. The Shul security supervisors evacuated the building including the construction crew working on a project on the north-end of the property. The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Bomb Squad responded and declared the item safe.

**Grand Theft Motor Vehicle Recovery/ Warrant Arrest**

01/28/2020 at 1148 hours

7900 Block of Harding Avenue

A License Plate Reader (LPR) BOLO was disseminated via radio transmission of a stolen U-Haul truck traveling east bound on 96<sup>th</sup> street from Bay Harbor Islands jurisdiction. The vehicle was observed turning south on Harding Avenue and 94<sup>th</sup> Street. The officer immediately requested additional units to initiate a felony traffic stop. Once the vehicle was stopped it was determined that the truck was an overdue rental that had been reported stolen by the company. A criminal record check of the subject revealed an active Bench Warrant for Battery. The driver was arrested and the recovered stolen vehicle was towed to Beach Towing.

**2019 LEO AWARDS FINALIST**

Parking Enforcement Officer Josue Castro has been selected as a finalist for the prestigious 2019 Miami-Dade County LEO Awards. The winners will be chosen at the awards ceremony on March 7, 2020 at Trump National Doral. Congratulations Josue and best of luck!

**THIRD THURSDAY EVENTS**

The second Third Thursday event for the season will be February 20<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. The set up will begin at 2:00 p.m. and the breakdown will end at 11:00 p.m. The final event will be March 19<sup>th</sup>.

The Police Department will assist with the following:

- Block parking on the 200 block of 95<sup>th</sup> Street
- Block entire “Shul” parking lot
- Close the 200 block of 95<sup>th</sup> Street to traffic 2:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m. while keeping the alley pass through open

Local businesses and The Shul will be notified that the area will be closed to traffic by utilizing the message board. The Business District Officers will assist with the notifications.

### **HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS WALK**

Every day, people are forced into a life no one would choose-sold into the sex trade, locked up and forced to work in sweatshops and made to work for little or no pay. Human Trafficking is a form of modern-day slavery and we, as a community, must do all we can to bring light to this important issue. The Fifth Annual Human Trafficking Awareness Walk took place on January 30<sup>th</sup> at Florida National University in Hialeah at 10:00 a.m. Officer Edward Carrasquillo represented the Town of Surfside and our Police Department in this event.

### **JANUARY COMMUNITY INITIATIVES / LAW ENFORCEMENT EVENTS**

The supervisory staff meeting was January 14<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m.

The Surfside Police Department hosted the Regional Criminal Investigations Unit intelligence meeting on January 23<sup>rd</sup> at 10:00 a.m. Sgt. Cruz and Det. Dulaney represented the SPD.

The monthly Bike with the Chief Ride was January 29<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m.

The monthly Starbucks – Coffee with the Cops was January 30<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m.

### **FEBRUARY COMMUNITY INITIATIVES / LAW ENFORCEMENT EVENTS**

The supervisory staff meeting is February 13<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m.

The Miami-Dade Police Department will host the Regional Criminal Investigations Unit intelligence meeting on February 21<sup>st</sup> at 10:00 a.m.

The Surfside Police Department will host a community blood drive on February 19<sup>th</sup> from 10:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. in the Town Hall municipal parking lot.

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 February 20<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the Police Training Room.

The monthly Bike with the Chief Ride is February 26<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m. All are welcome to participate.

The monthly Starbucks – Coffee with the Cops is February 27<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 JANUARY**

Automated Facial Recognition and Face Comparison Training – Det. Dulaney  
Autism Safety 101- Autism and the Law Enforcement Response Training- Sgt. Lorente, Ofc. Durante, Ofc. Mendoza  
Active Shooter Response Training (FITT) – Sgt. Alberto, Sgt. Cruz, Sgt. Lorente, Sgt. Matelis, Ofc. Campbell, Ofc. Hernandez, Ofc. Luke, Ofc. Valino  
CCTA First Responder Integrated Tactical Training at MPD – Sgt. Cruz  
Discriminatory Profiling & Professional Traffic Stops Training (online) - Ofc. Ruiz  
Domestic Violence Training (online) – Ofc. Ruiz  
FACES Online Training - Det. Dulaney  
FCIC/NCIC Training – PEO Olajubu  
Firearms Skills Enhancement Training - Ofc. Duran, Ofc. Ruiz  
Gaining the Edge Training – Ofc. Durante, Ofc. Mendoza  
Juvenile Sexual Offender Investigations Training (online)- Ofc. Ruiz  
Less-Lethal Weapon Systems Re-Certification – Lt. Healy, Lt. Marciante, Sgt. Alberto, Sgt. Cruz, Sgt. Lorente, Sgt. Pacheco, Ofc. Arch, Ofc. Carrasquillo, Ofc. Colonna, Ofc. Donoso, Ofc. Duran, Ofc. Durante, Ofc. Knight, Ofc. Ruiz, Ofc. Smith  
Mandatory FDLE Retraining – Det. Dulaney  
MBPD SWAT Training – Sgt. Torres  
Profiling Teen Killers, School Shooters, Mass Murderers and Serial Killers - Det. Dulaney  
Read-Recognize-Respond Training – Sgt. Matelis  
Surviving Violent Encounters and Threats Training – Ofc. Durante, Ofc. Mendoza