

# Bulletin

# 20-10

Date: October 6, 2020

**OFFICER OF THE MONTH – SEPTEMBER 2020 – OFFICER JOSEPH MATTHEWS**

On September 11, 2020, Officer Joseph Matthews was enroute to work driving his marked Police Department vehicle when he observed a multi-vehicle traffic crash in the 15700 block of Northwest 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue. Officer Matthews took immediate action in strategically positioning his police vehicle and assessing the scene for injured motorists and pedestrians. Officer Matthews observed a visible shaken female holding an infant child near a minivan that had been involved in the traffic crash. Officer Matthews transmitted a priority call for immediate emergency assistance then radioed a priority call for immediate emergency assistance on the main Miami- Dade Police radio channel due to the severity of the crash and the likelihood of multiple injuries. The distressed female then ran towards Officer Matthews passenger window with the infant in her outstretched arms saying "help my baby, help my baby". Officer Matthews hurriedly donned his PPE gloves, took possession of the infant, and conducted a medical assessment of the infant's heartbeat, respirations, and condition. His assessment led to the conclusion that the infant had no visible signs of trauma, was non-responsive, no respirations, and no heartbeat. Officer Matthews immediately began Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) on the infant. As Officer Matthews performed compressions, he was able to instruct the infant's mother to perform rescue breathing to the infant. Officer Matthews knew he had to continue the CPR compressions and breathing cycles non-stop until Fire Rescue personnel arrived. He intelligently commissioned the assistance a citizen on scene to depress the transit button on his police radio so he could provide pertinent medical updates to the police dispatcher via his radio that were then relayed to Miami-Dade Fire Rescue personnel enroute to the scene. Upon arrival of the Miami-Dade Police Officer, the infant's mother was relieved from the rescue breathing role. Officer Matthews continued performing compressions until Miami-Dade Fire rescue personnel arrived and took over the efforts to save the infant's life. Several adults and children were transported to the hospital by Fire Rescue and the infant was airlifted via Miami-Dade Fire Rescue helicopter to Jackson Memorial Hospital Ryder Trauma Center. Officer Matthews provided all his pertinent information to the Miami-Dade Police Department Traffic Crash Investigators on scene.

The efforts and actions by all first responders were remarkable and heroic. Officer Joseph Matthews deserves special recognition for his prompt reaction to a critical incident he happened upon his way to work outside of his jurisdiction; safely and effectively coordinating the on-scene response of the traffic crash; and identifying mitigated injuries to other pedestrians and motorists. The infant arrived at Jackson Memorial Hospital but despite the valiant efforts of the first responders and hospital staff, the 20-day old infant expired while at the hospital. Two children also traveling in the same vehicle as the infant, a one year old and a two-year-old, were transported to the Ryder Trauma Center in stable condition.

The Surfside Police Department is extremely proud of Officer Joseph Mathews' heroic actions and efforts during this horrific tragedy. Officer Mathews is commended for his quick response, decision making skills, professionalism, and dedication to the South Florida Community he so proudly serves. Congratulations to Officer Joseph Mathews as the recipient of the September Officer of the Month award...well deserved!

### **CORONAVIRUS (COVID 19)**

The Surfside Police Department has maintained situational awareness of the COVID-19 Pandemic Incident in coordination with Local, State, and Federal partner Agencies and through continued contact and information sharing with the Miami-Dade County Office of Emergency Operations-Emergency Operations Center. Our Department strives to maintain operational readiness, public preparedness, safeguarding the community, and enforcement of laws-ordinances-governmental orders.

### **HIGH ACHIEVERS**

Officer Durante  
Officer Gabriel  
Officer Hernandez  
Officer Ruiz  
Officer Valino  
Parking Enforcement Officer Castro

### **SIGNIFICANT INVESTIGATIONS/INCIDENTS**

#### **Burglary**

09/01/2020 at 2043 hours

9100 block of Collins Avenue

The victim's ex-boyfriend entered and changed the locks to her apartment without her consent. While inside, he took miscellaneous items and tossed various items of clothing, belonging to her and her new boyfriend, out of the balcony. The victim had the locks changed prior to officers' arrival. The victim stated that her iPad was missing. Total value between items taken and damages to designer clothing was estimated at \$15,000.00. Crime scene responded and processed the scene.

#### **Stolen Vehicle Recovery and Narcotics Arrest**

09/10/2020 at 1745 hours

9300 block of Harding Avenue

A B.O.L.O. was broadcasted over the radio reference a stolen vehicle. An officer observed the vehicle traveling south on Harding Avenue and initiated a traffic stop. The driver was arrested and the stolen vehicle was recovered. The passenger was found to be in possession of a glass pipe stem with cocaine residue. The passenger was also arrested.

**Hit and Run Arrest**

09/13/2020 at 0130 hours

500 block of 96<sup>th</sup> Street

A B.O.L.O. was broadcasted over the radio reference a driver who was involved in a traffic crash in Surfside and fled the scene. The driver that fled was located in Miami Beach where she had been involved in another crash. The driver was arrested and transported to Mount Sinai to receive medical evaluation/clearance.

**Hit and Run/Fleeing and Elude L.E.O.**

09/16/2020 at 1218 hours

90<sup>th</sup> Street and Collins Avenue

While conducting a speeding detail, traffic enforcement officers attempted to stop a vehicle traveling at 79 mph on Collins Avenue. The driver ignored the officers and accelerated. The vehicle struck a bicyclist in the 9300 block of Collins Avenue; the bicyclist suffered minor injury. The driver abandoned the vehicle at the 100 block of 94<sup>th</sup> Street and fled on foot towards the beach. Officers saturated the area and searched for the subject, but the subject was not located. The vehicle was towed and processed by crime scene.

**Fleeing and Eluding L.E.O. Arrest**

09/17/2020 at 1305 hours

90<sup>th</sup> Street and Collins Avenue

While conducting a speeding detail, traffic enforcement officers attempted to conduct a traffic stop on a vehicle which refused to stop. The vehicle fled from officers and a B.O.L.O. was quickly broadcasted over the radio. The vehicle was ultimately stopped by Miami-Dade Police on N.E. 162<sup>nd</sup> Street. Narcotics and a gun were discovered in the vehicle. Two vehicle occupants were arrested.

**Fleeing and Eluding L.E.O. Arrest**

09/18/2020 at 1400 hours

9700 Collins Avenue

An officer stopped a vehicle for traveling at 52 MPH in a 30 MPH zone. The officer verbally obtained the driver's information and when he returned to the police vehicle to conduct a records check, the driver fled in the vehicle at a high rate of speed into the residential area. A B.O.L.O. was broadcasted on the radio and the vehicle was immediately located by another officer in the 9400 block of Bay Drive. A felony traffic stop was attempted, but the driver continued to disregard the officer's orders and sped away. Moments later, the subject committed a hit and run crash in Bal Harbour's jurisdiction on Collins Avenue. The subject then drove into the Bal Harbour Shops, parked the vehicle, and fled on foot into the mall. The subject was taken into custody by Bal Harbour officers in the parking garage of the Bal Harbour Shops. The subject was criminally charged by Surfside Police and Bal Harbour Police. In addition, the subject received multiple traffic citations and the vehicle was towed. The subject has an extensive criminal history and non-extraditable warrants out of the State of Georgia. The subject was arrested.

**Auto Burglary**

09/22/20 at 0230 hours

9000 block of Byron Avenue

An unidentified male entered two unlocked vehicles, ransacking both vehicles. The only items missing were loose change (unknown amount) and a \$30.00-dollar scratch-off lottery ticket. Detectives reviewed surveillance footage which captured a thin, white male, wearing a baseball cap and carrying a shoulder bag entering the vehicles. Crime scene processed a vehicle for latent prints.

**Auto Burglary and Bicycle Theft Arrest**

09/22/20 at 0230 hours

9000 block of Byron Avenue

While investigating the above listed auto burglary at the 9000 block of Byron Avenue, the officer was approached by a neighbor whose vehicle had also been burglarized. The same subject was captured on video ransacking the contents of the center console however nothing inside the vehicle was missing. A turquoise electric bicycle (estimated value \$540.00 dollars) and a blue Razor scooter (estimated value \$85.00 dollars) were also missing from the front porch. The vehicle and both items had been left unlocked by the victim. Crime scene processed the vehicle for latent prints. SPD Crime scene obtained two latent prints that led to the positive identification of the subject in this case. On October 2, 2020, detectives with the assistance of patrol located the subject. The subject was interviewed, gave a full confession and was arrested and charged.

**Auto Burglary**

Between 09/21/2020 at 2000 hours - 09/22/2020 at 0930 hours

8800 block of Byron Avenue

Unknown subject(s) entered a vehicle, rifling through the contents from the center console and glove compartment taking \$30.00 dollars in loose change from the center compartment. The victim locked the vehicle however the driver's side door does not lock with the fob on occasion. Detectives conducted an area canvass for surveillance cameras. Crime scene processed the vehicle for latent prints.

**Residential Burglary**

09/22/2020 between 1330 hours - 1730 hours

8800 block of Dickens Avenue

Unknown subject(s) entered a residence through an unlocked side door ransacking various rooms leaving them in disarray. A laptop computer from the living room (valued at \$1,600.00 dollars), clothing from his bedroom (total value of \$1,000.00 dollars), and a large storage box (valued at \$125.00 dollars) were taken from the residence. Crime Scene responded and processed the scene. An area canvass was conducted, but revealed no surveillance cameras. There is no alarm or video surveillance equipment at the residence.

**Auto Theft**

09/26/2020 at 0907 hours

1000 block of 88<sup>th</sup> Street

A vehicle was parked in the driveway of a residence, unlocked with the key fob inside. A white Mercedes-Benz pulled into the driveway and an unknown black male subject exited the passenger side and approached the victim's vehicle. The subject took the vehicle and fled east on 88<sup>th</sup> Street. Detectives reviewed surveillance cameras, canvassed the area, and created a BOLO flyer which was disseminated to surrounding police agencies. The vehicle was entered as stolen into FCIC/NCIC. The investigation later revealed the vehicle was in Davie, FL. The area of where the vehicle was last known was checked by the Broward Sheriff's Office, but it was not located.

**Auto Burglary**

09/26/2020 at 0901 hours

8900 block of Bay Drive

While reviewing the surveillance cameras for the auto theft at 1000 88th Street, the same subject was also captured entering an unlocked Land Rover in the driveway of a residence. The victim reported nothing missing. Crime scene responded, but no latent prints were located. A flyer was created and disseminated to surrounding police agencies.

**FLORIDA LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAFFIC SAFETY CHALLENGE**

The Surfside Police Department was awarded 1<sup>st</sup> Place in the Florida Law Enforcement Traffic Safety Challenge. To attain this prestigious recognition, SPD competed against 40 Law Enforcement agencies statewide with 31 to 50 Officers.

The Florida Law Enforcement Traffic Safety Challenge is a traffic safety program designed to recognize an agency's effectiveness of efforts in traffic safety. The Florida Law Enforcement Traffic Safety Challenge encourages a multi-faceted approach for safer communities as it relates to traffic safety, effectiveness of efforts, policies regarding traffic safety initiatives, education of personnel, Law Enforcement Liaison (LEL) Program participation, recognition, and enforcement. The Florida Law Enforcement Traffic Safety Challenge recognizes the best overall traffic safety initiatives promoting safer driving in the agency's community.

**HIGH HOLIDAYS**

The High Holiday services began on Sunday evening, September 18, 2020 and will conclude on October 11, 2020. Please see the schedule below of service dates and times that will have high attendance. Many of the holidays have driving restrictions which means a large number of pedestrians.

The Surfside Police Department has increased police presence with assigned details for high visibility during the High Holidays in the areas of The Shul 9540 Collins Avenue, Young Israel 9592 Harding Avenue, Hechal Shalom Sephardic Congregation 310 95<sup>th</sup> Street and Magen David Sephardic Congregation 9348 Harding Avenue. The enhanced patrols will be concentrated before and after services when congregants from the surrounding area and neighboring communities are walking to and from these locations. In addition, Bal Harbour and Bay Harbor Islands Police Departments will assign officers to further augment patrols in the area. There will be uniformed security guards working throughout the holidays at the Shul and Young Israel.

<u>DATES</u>	<u>TIMES</u>
<u>Rosh Hashanah</u>	
Friday, September 18, 2020	6:00 p.m. - 3:00 a.m.
Saturday, September 19, 2020	8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. & 6:00 p.m. - 3:00 a.m.
Sunday, September 20, 2020	8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
<u>Yom Kippur</u>	
Sunday, September 27, 2020	6:00 p.m. - 3:00 a.m.
Monday, September 28, 2020	8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
<u>Sukkot</u>	
Friday, October 2, 2020	6:00 p.m. - 3:00 a.m.
Saturday, October 3, 2020	8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. & 6:00 p.m. - 3:00 a.m.
Sunday, October 4, 2020	8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Friday, October 9, 2020	6:00 p.m. - 3:00 a.m.
Saturday, October 10, 2020	8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. & 6:00 p.m. - 3:00 a.m.
Sunday, October 11, 2020	8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
<u>Shemini Atzeret &amp; Simchat Torah</u>	
Friday, October 9, 2020	6:00 p.m. - 3:00 a.m.
Saturday, October 10, 2020	8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. & 6:00 p.m. - 3:00 a.m.
Sunday, October 11, 2020	8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

## **PERSONNEL UPDATE**

Officer Donovan Saffo was sworn in as Surfside's newest Police Officer on Tuesday, September 29<sup>th</sup> in the Commission Chambers. Officer Donovan Saffo graduated from the Miami Dade College School of Justice Police Academy, BLE 363, on September 4, 2020. Well done Donovan and we are proud of all your accomplishments!

## **SHIFT BID**

The Patrol Shift Bid process has been completed and will be effective October 19, 2020.

### A Squad

Sergeant Alberto  
Officer Arch  
Officer Campbell  
Officer Carrasquillo  
Officer Colonna  
Communications Supervisor Sperbeck

### B Squad

Sergeant Lorente  
Officer Gambirazio  
Officer Gentile  
Officer Hernandez  
\*Officer Saffo (upon FTO completion)  
Communications Operator Burnell

### C Squad

Sergeant Torres  
\*Officer Lage  
Officer Lovellette  
Officer Matthews  
Officer Valino  
Communications Operator Castillo

### D Squad

Sergeant Pacheco  
\*Officer Duran  
Officer Knight  
Officer Ruiz  
Officer Smith  
Communications Operator Villar

### E Squad/Traffic

Sergeant Matelis  
Officer Donoso  
Officer Durante  
Officer Gabriel  
Officer Luke

\*Officer Duran will be temporarily assigned to Squad A and released back to Squad D upon the return of Officer Arch

\*Officer Lage will be temporarily assigned to Squad B and released back to Squad C upon the release of Officer Saffo

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

Monthly community events (Bike with the Chief and Coffee with the Cops) and monthly meetings (CIU Intel, Police/Prosecutor and Police Staff) were cancelled due to the COVID 19 Pandemic.

The Surfside Police Department hosted a community blood drive on September 2<sup>nd</sup> from 11:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. in the Town Hall municipal parking lot.



FDOT in conjunction with the Surfside Police Department hosted a Multi-Agency Traffic Enforcement Detail in the Town of Surfside on September 8<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Police Officers from Surfside, Aventura, Bal Harbour, Bay Harbor Islands, Miami Beach, Miami-Dade County, North Miami Beach and Sunny Isles Beach Police Departments participated in this effective and significant event. Sgt. Matelis, Officer Donoso, Officer Duran and Officer Durante proudly represented the Surfside Police Department issuing 79 traffic citations.

FDOT in conjunction with the Sunny Isles Beach Police Department hosted a Multi-Agency Traffic Enforcement Detail in Sunny Isles Beach on September 22<sup>nd</sup> from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Police Officers from Surfside, Aventura, Bal Harbour, Bay Harbor Islands, Miami Beach, Miami-Dade County, North Miami Beach and Sunny Isles Beach Police Departments participated in this effective and significant event. Sgt. Matelis, Officer Duran and Officer Durante proudly represented the Surfside Police Department.

The Florida Highway Patrol joined forces with SPD on September 29<sup>th</sup> in an enhanced traffic enforcement detail from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The purpose of this operation was for public education and enforcement of traffic violations. Special thank you to former Mayor Paul Novack (a member of the Florida Highway Patrol Advisory Committee) for his assistance in coordinating this effort.

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

Monthly community events (Bike with the Chief and Coffee with the Cops) and monthly meetings (CIU Intel, Police/Prosecutor and Police Staff) were cancelled due to the COVID 19 Pandemic.

The Surfside Police Department will host a community blood drive on October 21<sup>st</sup> from 11:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. in the Town Hall municipal parking lot.

Surfside PD, Aventura PD, Bay Harbor Islands PD, North Miami PD and Sunny Isles Beach PD will host a Shred-a -Thon and DEA Drug Take Back on October 24<sup>th</sup> at Bill Bird Marina (Haulover Park) from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

### **TRAINING COMPLETED IN SEPTEMBER**

Body Camera Training – Ofc. Colonna, PPO Saffo

Converting to NIBRS: What you need to know Webinar – Sgt. Cruz

CPR/AED/Tourniquet/First Aid Training – Chief Yero, Capt. Bambis, Lt. Marciante, Sgt. Cruz, Sgt. Lorente, Sgt. Pacheco, Sgt. Torres, Det. Dulaney, Ofc. Campbell, Ofc. Carrasquillo, Ofc. Durante, Ofc. Gabriel, Ofc. Gambirazio, Ofc. Gentile, Ofc. Hernandez, Ofc. Knight, Ofc. Lage, Ofc. Lovellette, Ofc. Luke, Ofc. Matthews, Ofc. Ruiz, Ofc. Smith, Ofc. Valino, CS Sperbeck, CO Castillo, CO Burnell-McKnight, , CO Villar, EA Goldstein, PEO Castro, PEO Perez, PEO Saffo, PSS Perez, AM Smith

Customer Service Training 102 – Lt. Healy, Sgt. Cruz, Sgt. Matelis, CS Sperbeck, PM Joseph, EA Goldstein



Emergency Management Institute/FEMA: Introduction to Incident Command System, ICS-100 – Officer Saffo

Emergency Management Institute/FEMA: Basic Incident Command System for Initial Response, ICS-200 – PPO Saffo

Emergency Management Institute/FEMA: An Introduction to National Incident Management System, ICS-700 – Officer Saffo

Emergency Management Institute/FEMA: An Introduction to National Response Framework, ICS-800 – Officer Saffo

FCIC/NCIC Limited Access Certification – Sgt. Lorente

Pursuit Driving Policy – Sgt. Lorente, Ofc. Lovellette, Ofc. Matthews, Ofc. Valino

Transitioning to NIBRS - Sgt. Cruz

SWAT Training- Sgt. Torres