

Bulletin

21-04

Date: April 5, 2021

CIVILIANS OF THE MONTH – MARCH 2021 – PARKING OPERATIONS MANAGER ELINOR JOSEPH, PARKING ENFORCEMENT OFFICER ALAIN ACOSTA, PARKING ENFORCEMENT OFFICER JOSUE CASTRO, PARKING ENFORCEMENT OFFICER WILLY PEREZ

The Town of Surfside coordinated with the Florida Department of Health to become a COVID-19 vaccination site and administered the first-dose of the vaccine to qualifying Surfside residents on March 24, 2021 in the Town Hall Municipal parking lot. In the weeks leading up to the event, essential participants met to discuss the plans for the upcoming vaccination involving several Town of Surfside departments.

The Town of Surfside's exceptional Parking Department was critical in the success of the vaccination clinic. This Parking Division is comprised of Parking Operations Manager Elinor Joseph and Parking Enforcement Officers Alain Acosta, Josue Castro and Willy Perez. The coordination of this significant Town event was extensive involving several days of preparation encompassing parking enforcement officers along with other town employees going door to door throughout the town. The dedicated employees provided informational pamphlets to elderly residents and instructions on how to sign up to receive the vaccination. Additional preparation included setting up pre-designated parking lots for the Department of Health Employees and residents that would be coming to the town hall for the vaccine. Additionally, the parking workforce set up and directed all town employees to alternate parking as they arrived to work. On the day of the event, each member of the parking unit voluntarily adjusted their work schedule, arriving to work at 6:00 a.m. in order to ensure everything ran smoothly and cohesively. The parking personnel set up a staging area for residents that arrived early to their appointments, keeping social distancing guidelines a priority. Each employee manned key positions on foot in the two designated parking lots for the Department of Health Employees and residents to park.

If not for the leadership of Parking Operation Manager Joseph, along with the work ethic of Parking Enforcement Officers Acosta, Castro and Perez, this event could not have been as seamless and successful as it was. These true professionals perform in an exceptional manner every day. Whether for a special event or their daily responsibilities, the dedication exhibited by these employees as they assist others and the community they service is unwavering. These exceptional people are commended for their extraordinary work and commitment to the Town of Surfside. Congratulations to Parking Operations Manager Elinor Joseph and Parking Enforcement Officers Alain Acosta, Josue Castro and Willy Perez as the recipients of the March Civilians 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 Donoso
Officer Durante
Officer Gambirazio
Officer Lage
Officer Smith
Parking Enforcement Officer Perez

SIGNIFICANT INVESTIGATIONS/INCIDENTS

Aggravated Assault Arrest

03/01/2021 at 0530 hours

9449 Collins Avenue – Grand Beach Hotel

On 03/01/2021, the manager reported that a hotel guest threw a glass bottle towards his direction during a verbal dispute. The manager was able to move out of the way to avoid being hit by the bottle. The guest then fled the hotel. On 03/03/2021, the guest returned to the hotel and was subsequently arrested.

Aggravated Assault Arrest

03/04/2021 at 2005 hours

9100 block of Harding Avenue

An officer was flagged down by a victim, who reported that a motorist displayed a firearm in a threatening manner. The officer interviewed both parties and determined a road rage incident resulted in the motorist brandishing a gun to intimidate the victim. The gun was impounded and the motorist was arrested.

Traffic Crash Fatality

03/07/2021 at 1628 hours

9500 block of Byron Avenue

The driver was being guided into the driveway by the pedestrian, who was sitting in a wheelchair, in front of the vehicle when the driver accidently accelerated and struck the pedestrian.

Accidental Shooting

03/09/2021 at 0413 hours

9400 block of Abbott Avenue

Officers responded to a call of a person who accidentally shot herself in the hand. The adult female woke up after hearing a noise in her apartment. The female grabbed a pen gun which accidentally discharged in her hand. The female sustained non-life-threatening injuries to her hand and leg. The female was transported to Mount Sinai Hospital. The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) responded to the scene and impounded the pen gun.

Vehicle Burglary

03/17/2021 at 1320 hours

9500 block of Abbott Avenue (Abbott Lot)

An unknown subject smashed the rear window of a rental vehicle, entered the vehicle and stole \$4,302.00 dollars' worth of personal items. A review of surveillance cameras in the area captured a male subject committing the crime. The victim refused to wait for crime scene, therefore the vehicle could not be processed for further evidence.

Residential Burglary

03/18/2021 at 0940 hours

8800 block of Dickens Avenue

An unknown subject entered the residence through an unlocked southwest bedroom window, ransacked the house and stole an Apple laptop (valued at \$1,000.00 dollars). An area canvass was conducted which revealed that a neighbor's camera captured an unknown male enter and exit the victim's house, during the timeframe of the burglary. Crime scene processed the home for evidence.

NATIONAL PUBLIC SAFETY TELECOMMUNICATIONS WEEK

The National Public Safety Telecommunications Week is April 12th -16th, 2021. This week is celebrated annually and honors the thousands of men and women who answer emergency calls, dispatch emergency professionals and equipment, and render life-saving assistance to citizens and first responders.

Communications Supervisor Susie Sperbeck, Communications Operator Tameka Burnell-McKnight, Communications Operator Kenia Castillo and Communications Operator Jorge Villar are honored by the Command Staff and colleagues for their service to the law enforcement profession as communications operators. In times of crisis such as the Coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic, their essential service is clearly demonstrated and greatly appreciated by all they serve. A special thank you to these dedicated professionals for all that they do each and every day.

SHIFT BID

The Patrol Shift Bid process has been completed and is effective April 19, 2021.

A Squad

Sergeant Matelis
Officer Carrasquillo
Officer Colonna
Officer Gabriel
Officer Luke
Communications Supervisor Sperbeck

B Squad

Sergeant Lorente
Officer Donoso
Officer Durante
Officer Hernandez
Officer Ruiz
Communications Operator Burnell

C Squad

Sergeant Torres
Officer Gambirazio
Officer Lage
Officer Lovellette
Officer Matthews
Communications Operator Castillo

D Squad

Sergeant Pacheco
Officer Duran
Officer Knight
Officer Saffo
Officer Smith
Communications Operator Villar

E Squad/Traffic

Officer Arch
Officer Gentile
Officer Valino

PERSONNEL UPDATE

Parking Enforcement Officer Cristhian Acosta is the newest member of our parking enforcement team joining the Surfside Police Department family on March 29, 2021. PEO Acosta is a certified Parking Enforcement Officer with years of experience and has completed his Town of Surfside orientation. Please join me in welcoming Cristhian to the Surfside team and offer your assistance to him as he transitions into his new position.

MARCH COMMUNITY INITIATIVES / LAW ENFORCEMENT EVENTS

The supervisory staff meeting was March 9th at 5:00 p.m. in the Police Training Room.

The Surfside Police Department hosted a community blood drive on March 17th from 11:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. in the Town Hall municipal parking lot.

Chief Yero and the Surfside Police Department hosted a Passover Safety Meeting on March 18th with neighboring police departments in preparation for the upcoming holiday. Rabbi Mark Rosenberg was the guest speaker with members of the command staff from Aventura, Bal Harbour, Bay Harbor Islands, Miami Beach, North Miami Beach and North Bay Village Police Departments in attendance.

Sergeant Alejandro Lorente and Detective Andres Mendoza proudly represented the Surfside Police Department alongside representatives from several Miami-Dade County Police Departments as members of the Honor Guard at the funeral for fallen Orlando Police Officer Kevin Valencia who was shot and critically injured during a Domestic Violence call in 2018. Officer Valencia succumbed to his injuries on March 15, 2021 and was honored by the Orlando Police Department on March 24, 2021 at the First Baptist Church in Orlando. Officer Valencia began his law enforcement career in South Florida at the Doral Police Department.

The Town of Surfside coordinated with the Florida Department of Health to become a COVID-19 vaccination site and administered the first-dose of the vaccine to qualifying Surfside residents on March 24, 2021 in the Town Hall Municipal parking lot. The Police Department assisted with site security, crowd and traffic control. The second dose will be administered on April 14, 2021.

APRIL COMMUNITY INITIATIVES / LAW ENFORCEMENT EVENTS

The Annual Dolphins Cancer Challenge (DCC) bicycle ride will take place on April 10th with Surfside police officers assisting with bicycle and traffic direction on Collins Avenue from 87th Terrace to 95th Street between 7:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. as 500-600 bicycle riders will travel through the Town of Surfside to reach their final destination the Hard Rock Stadium

The supervisory staff meeting is April 15th at 5:00 p.m. in the Police Training Room

Surfside PD, Aventura PD, Bay Harbor Islands PD, North Miami PD and Sunny Isles Beach PD will host a Multi-Agency Collection Day (electronics recycling, Shred-a-Thon and DEA Drug Takeback) on April 25th at Bill Bird Marina (Haulover Park) from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

The Surfside Police Department will host a community blood drive on April 25th from 11:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. in the Town Hall municipal parking lot

TRAINING COMPLETED IN MARCH

Adult Civil Citation Program Update (PowerDMS) - All Personnel

Bloodborne Pathogens Annual Training (PowerDMS) - All Personnel

Career Professionalism (LocalGov Online Training) – EA Goldstein, AM Smith

Developing Effective Communications Skills (LocalGov Online Training) – Sgt. Cruz, EA Goldstein, AM Smith

Diversity at the Workplace (LocalGov Online Training) – Ofc. Gabriel

Departmental Directive Update 03-23 Infectious Diseases (PowerDMS) - All Personnel

Departmental Directive Update 10-02 Training (PowerDMS) - All Personnel

FCIC Agency Coordinator Training – Ofc. Campbell

Investigative Techniques Training - Det. Leon, Det. Mendoza

Managing the Accreditation Process Training – Chief Yero

NIBRS Virtual Training – Sgt. Cruz, Det. Leon

Stolen Vessels Trends – Det. Leon, Det. Mendoza

SWAT Training- Sgt. Torres

Title Fraud Training - Det. Leon, Det. Mendoza

Recognizing Head Injuries in Infants and Children (FDLE) – All Sworn Personnel