

# Bulletin

# 21-07

Date: July 8, 2021

**#SURFSIDE STRONG**

I want to express my heartfelt thank you to all who are working in extreme conditions under stress and working tirelessly day and night. I am extremely proud of the exceptional dedication, professionalism and teamwork demonstrated during this devastating incident. The Champlain Towers South collapse catastrophe has impacted so many families, the entire Town of Surfside, surrounding communities and Miami-Dade County, so tragically. This disaster which you have all been such a vital part of has brought the eyes of the world upon us. We often wonder in life how one would act under truly difficult and challenging circumstances. The police officers and civilian staff of the Surfside Police Department have stood up to every trial and test and performed in an exemplary manner, with compassion and bravery. I am privileged to be your chief of police and honored to be working hand in hand with you. Everyone's efforts are deeply appreciated by the community, the families and the Command Staff. Take care of yourself, your families and be safe!

**HIGH ACHIEVERS**

Officer Donoso  
Officer Gabriel  
Officer Gambirazio  
Officer Saffo  
Officer Valino  
Parking Enforcement Officer A. Acosta

**SIGNIFICANT INVESTIGATIONS/INCIDENTS**

Residential Burglary  
06/22/2021 at 1156 hours  
8900 block of Abbott Avenue  
Unknown subject(s) entered an unlocked backyard shed between 06/20/2021-06/22/2021 taking a bicycle valued at \$1,500.00 dollars. The home's surveillance cameras were reviewed by a detective however it did not capture the incident.

**Partial Building Collapse**

06/24/2021 at 0120 hours

8777 Collins Avenue – Champlain Tower South

Officers responded to a call of a fire alarm and encountered a partially collapsed condominium building. The building was occupied and multiple victims were expected. Miami-Dade Fire Rescue arrived on scene and began treating injured people and conducting search and rescue operations. The remainder of the condominium was evacuated and residents were escorted to the Surfside Community Center which later become the Family Reunification Center. The scene was secured and a perimeter was established. A Unified Command Post was established at 87<sup>th</sup> Terrace and Collins Avenue and a media staging area was established at 84<sup>th</sup> Street and Collins Avenue. Traffic was diverted away from the scene on Collins and Harding Avenues. Miami-Dade Police Department Homicide Unit was contacted and took over the scene. Multiple police agencies and fire rescue departments also responded to offer assistance. The Town of Surfside issued a Local State of Emergency. Miami-Dade County Mayor issued a Declaration of Local State of Emergency and the Florida Governor issued a State of Emergency in Miami-Dade County. Officers have been assigned to multiple traffic posts throughout the Town in an effort to control pedestrian and vehicular traffic. This incident is still active and ongoing.

**Concealed Weapon Arrest**

06/30/2021 at 1230 hours

8800 block of Carlyle Avenue

While on a traffic post, officers conducted a traffic stop noticing a firearm inside the vehicle. A record check revealed that the driver did not have a conceal weapons permit. A small amount of marijuana was found in the driver's pocket. The marijuana and firearm were impounded. The driver was arrested.

**JUNE COMMUNITY INITIATIVES / LAW ENFORCEMENT EVENTS**

Life Scan testing took place June 1<sup>st</sup>, June 2<sup>nd</sup> and June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021.

Miami-Dade Animal Control patrolled the beach and hard park with Code Enforcement personnel on June 1<sup>st</sup>, June 3<sup>rd</sup> and June 9<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. The purpose of this program is to assist with educating the public and enforcement of dogs on the beach as well as any other animal code violations.

The Miami-Dade County LGBTQ Advisory Board hosted Love is Love Exhibit Kickoff on June 4<sup>th</sup> at noon at the HistoryMiami Museum North Building. Sgt. Matelis represented the Police Department and attended the event.

The Police Department hosted an Active Shooter / Fire Emergency Process / Bomb Threat Procedures training for all civilian employees on June 8<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m. and June 9<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. in the Commission Chambers instructed by Capt. Marciante. The classes were held in the Commission Chambers.

The supervisory staff meeting was June 10<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m.

The Police Department hosted an Axon Taser Instructor Certification training on June 14<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Sgt. Matelis, Sgt. Torres and Officer Colonna attended the training.

Code Enforcement hosted their monthly Special Master Hearing on June 16<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. in the Commission Chambers.

The Surfside Police Department hosted a community blood drive on June 16<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. in the Town Hall municipal parking lot.

The Surfside Police Department hosted a community blood drive on June 25<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. in the Abbott Lot in support of the victims of Champlain Towers South building collapse.

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

The supervisory staff meeting is July 13<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. in the Police Conference Room.

The FLOW (Florida Licensing on Wheels) will be July 19<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. to 1:30 a.m. in the Commission Chambers.

The Surfside Police Department will host a community blood drive on July 22<sup>nd</sup> from 11:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. in the Town Hall municipal parking lot.

#### **TRAINING COMPLETED IN JUNE**

Intermediate Rifle Skills – Ofc. Donoso

LE Blackhawk Range Day - Sgt. Torres

Level 2 Security Awareness Certification – PM Joseph, PEO C. Acosta

Local Agency Security Officer (LASO) Certification – Capt. Healy

The LGBTQ Community (LocalGov online training) -All Personnel

Tactical Decisions and Conduct with 4<sup>th</sup> Amendment Consequence - Ofc. Donoso

Tactics and Firearms Skills for Law Enforcement- Ofc. Ruiz

SWAT Training- Sgt. Torres

USA Software-Surfside FIBRS Tutorial - Sgt. Cruz, Det. Leon