



Date of occurrence: **October 15, 2020**

Employee Name: **Officer Bobby Gabriel**

Unit/Division: **Police Department**

Award/Commendation type and recommendations: Letter of Commendation and Officer of the Month for October 2020

Narrative:

On Thursday, October 15, 2020, Officer Bobby Gabriel was patrolling the 9200 block of Harding Avenue when he observed a vehicle with illegal tinted windows. While conducting a traffic stop, Officer Gabriel noticed the vehicle was bearing a temporary license plate that did not display the state to which it belonged. Officer Gabriel made contact with the driver who stated he rented the vehicle this way and later changed his story saying a friend lent him the car. As Officer Gabriel continued to investigate, he discovered the vehicle identification number (VIN) on the temporary license plate was not the same as on the vehicle.

A record check of the vehicle's VIN revealed the car had been stolen from Fort Lauderdale, FL. The driver was taken into custody, arrested and charged with Grand Theft Auto. During the inquiry, Officer Gabriel discovered the driver had \$7,500.00 in cash held together by plastic rubber bands in a backpack located in the vehicle. The money was impounded and inventoried by Officer Gabriel.

Due to Officer Gabriel's keen investigative skills, he was able to apprehend this individual and recover a stolen vehicle. This was his second Grand Theft Arrest in the past two months, impressive proactive police work conducted by Officer Gabriel. Officer Gabriel has a strong work ethic, respected by his peers and the community he proudly serves. Officer Gabriel is commended for his professionalism, initiative and dedication to the Town of Surfside. Congratulations to Officer Bobby Gabriel as the recipient of the October Officer of the Month award...well deserved!