



**Date of occurrence:** April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2022

**Employee Name:** Diana Leon

**Classification:** Detective

**Unit/Division:** Criminal Investigations Unit

**Award/Commendation type and recommendations:** Officer of the Month

**Narrative:**

On April 19th, 2022, a male subject entered the Publix supermarket located at 9400 Harding Avenue and took 32 cans of baby formula without making any attempt to pay. The store's surveillance cameras captured the subject taking a total of \$575.68 dollars' worth of formula. The subject then fled in a silver, Jeep 4x4, with no tag attached. Detective Leon, who was already off-duty, heard the call and immediately began the inquiry. Detective Leon had previously investigated a theft of baby formula, was aware of the crime ring and the subjects surrounding this crime. She immediately reached out to a Miami-Dade Police Department detective and discovered he had arrested our subject recently. Once Detective Leon obtained the subject's information, she discovered the subject had a silver Jeep registered to his name which matched the description of the vehicle in which the subject had fled. To gather further evidence, Detective Leon reached out to surrounding police agencies and requested a License Plate Reader (LPR) search. The LPR revealed that the subject's vehicle was in the Surfside area 6 minutes prior to the subject entering Publix. Despite the subject's attempt to conceal his identity by removing the vehicle tag, Detective Leon was able to link the automobile to the scene by a sticker located on the rear of the vehicle.

Taking the initiative, Detective Leon coordinated a joint surveillance with the Miami Dade Police Department. On April 21st, 2022, surveillance was established at the subject's girlfriend's house and the subject was subsequently arrested. During the subject's interview, he provided Detective Leon with a full confession discovering he had committed the same crime in other municipalities. Detective Leon contacted those police agencies notifying them of the subject's arrest in an effort to close additional cases for those agencies.

Detective Diana Leon is commended for her exceptional detective work, outstanding work ethic and dedication to her profession. Detective Leon's comprehensive investigation resulted in the apprehension of a subject that committed crimes in multiple municipalities. Congratulations to Detective Diana Leon as the recipient of the April Officer of the Month award...well deserved!