



SURFSIDE POLICE DEPARTMENT

AWARD OR COMMENDATION

Date of occurrence: August 23, 2022

Employee Name: Dianna Hernandez

Classification: Police Officer

Unit/Division: Patrol

Award/Commendation type and recommendations: Officer of the Month

On August 23, 2022, Officer Dianna Hernandez and Officer Lesmes Ruiz responded to 9048 Collins Avenue in reference to a 64-year-old male in respiratory distress. Both officers were directed to the west bedroom where Officer Hernandez observed the victim lying in bed unresponsive and not breathing. Officer Hernandez and Officer Ruiz grabbed the bed sheet lowering him to the floor where Officer Hernandez initiated Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR). The victim's extremities were cool to the touch whereas his face and chest were warm with no signs of rigor mortis or lividity. Officer Hernandez placed her CPR mask over his face so breaths could be administered however his jaw was rigid and would not open. Officer Hernandez observed abnormal skin lesions on the right side of the victim's neck. The officers learned the victim was suffering from neck and throat cancer.

Miami-Dade Fire Rescue 76 responded and took over CPR procedures. The victim was transported to Mt. Sinai Medical Center where he underwent an emergency procedure determining a mass in his throat caused his trachea to collapse leading to suffocation thereby causing cardiac arrest. The procedure was successful and the doctor was able to restore spontaneous circulation (heart beat). The victim's wife signed a do not resuscitate (DNR) at this juncture. The victim suffered another cardiac episode and unfortunately did not survive.

Officer Hernandez took charge during this critical call recognizing this life-or-death situation required swift action. She observed an individual in dire need of assistance and did not hesitate to utilize her training and experience during a call for service of the highest priority.

It is always gratifying to observe members of the Police Department performing exemplary actions and recognized for their extraordinary service to the community. Officer Hernandez is commended for performing superbly and with professional excellence. Her commitment to the community she proudly serves is admirable and deserving of high praise. Congratulations to Officer Dianna Hernandez as the recipient of the August Officer of the Month award...well deserved!

Chief of Police: _____

Date: _____

9/6/22