



SURFSIDE POLICE DEPARTMENT

AWARD OR COMMENDATION

Date of occurrence: June 7, 2023

Employee Name: Bobby Gabriel

Classification: Police Officer

Unit/Division: Patrol

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

On June 7th, 2023, Officer Bobby Gabriel was en route to work when he heard Surfside Police dispatch a call pertaining to a theft that just occurred along with the description of a female subject. Even though his shift had not begun, Officer Gabriel immediately went to assist with this evolving incident. Officer Gabriel observed a subject matching the description standing on the Southwest corner of 96th Street and Byron Avenue carrying a black bag and what appeared to be the stolen item. Officer Gabriel activated his emergency police lights as he approached the female subject and a male who was later identified as the victim. Officer Gabriel was provided with CCTV footage capturing the subject walk onto the victim's property removing a black and blue cooler from the covered porch area. Through the course of the investigation, the subject became upset and spontaneously stated "he can have his cooler back, I just want to leave". The cooler in the subject's possession was open/unzipped containing additional property. Officer Gabriel observed a package with mail inside the cooler when the subject lifted the cover to remove the property. The subject was arrested and taken into custody. Further investigation revealed 48 stolen pieces of mail addressed to residents in several jurisdictions, including Surfside. The subject was subsequently charged with Burglary to a Conveyance, Unlawful Possession of the personal identification information of other persons, Battery on a Law Enforcement Officer, Resisting Arrest without Violence, and Obstructing by Disguised Person. Furthermore, Officer Gabriel contacted the Postal Police Inspector to pursue federal charges. Officer Gabriel is commended for conducting a remarkable investigation which revealed additional offenses the subject committed. Officer Gabriel took the initiative from beginning to end during this call for service, going above and beyond the call of duty. Officer Gabriel's praiseworthy actions demonstrate his work ethic, professionalism and dedication to his profession. Congratulations to Officer Bobby Gabriel as the recipient of the June Officer of the Month award...well deserved!