

Surfside Police Department

<u>Award and/or commendation</u>



Date of occurrence: July 9, 2017

Employee Name: Officer John Gentile

Classification: Police Officer

Unit/Division: Patrol

Award/Commendation type and recommendations: Letter of Commendation

Narrative:

On the morning of Sunday, July 9, 2017, at approximately 0330 hours, Officer John Gentile saw a vehicle with three occupants parked on the side of the road in the 9100 block of Collins Avenue and one person on a motorcycle a short distance away. Officer Gentile became suspicious when both the vehicle and motorcycle were not leaving or moving and there was no traffic. Officer Gentile observed the motorcycle leave traveling the wrong way on Collins Avenue in an effort to avoid the officer and the vehicle left the scene at the same time. Officer Gentile conducted a traffic stop of the vehicle for an equipment violation. The occupants of the car gave conflicting stories about their activity near the motorcycle. Two BB guns, a bolt cutter and a baseball bat were discovered inside the vehicle as well as a tag registered to a motorcycle with an address in the 9100 block of Collins Avenue. The owner was contacted and verified that in fact his motorcycle was stolen. The three subjects detained were arrested for Loitering and Prowling. Two of the occupants of car were juveniles and were offered the civil citation program and released to their parents. The third occupant was an adult and was charged with, Possession of a Stolen Tag and Possession of Burglary Tools along with the Loitering and Prowling charge. The motorcycle was recovered a few hours later by the Miami-Dade Police Department. Officer Gentile is to be commended for being proactive and alert while patrolling and for his instincts and investigative ability which led to these arrests. Congratulations to Officer John Gentile as a recipient of Officer of the Month well deserved!