

Bulletin

14-12

Date: December 2, 2014

OFFICER OF THE MONTH – NOVEMBER 2014

On November 24, 2014, Detective Marian Cruz identified a possible suspect of grand theft from a hotel room. Through superb investigative techniques and interviewing skills, the suspect admitted to stealing \$370 in cash from a handbag in a hotel room. Det. Cruz was also able to gain a second confession of an additional theft of \$1000 in cash from another hotel room back in April 2014. Congratulations and excellent work!

CIVILIAN OF THE MONTH – NOVEMBER 2014

Communications Operator Tameka Burnell is recognized for their exceptional effort on November 24, 2014. That afternoon a water main burst on 96 Street causing two lanes of traffic to be closed. One eastbound lane had to be converted into a westbound lane to allow traffic to move in both directions. A fire was next reported at the closed hotel at 87 Street shutting down three lanes of traffic on Collins Avenue. All northbound traffic had to be diverted southbound onto Harding Avenue. Traffic was also gridlocked at 95 Street and Byron and Abbott Avenues. Communications Operator Burnell handled continuous angry phone calls from drivers and residents caught in the traffic as well as dispatching calls for service including an in-progress crime that resulted in two arrests. Congratulations and outstanding job!

HIGH ACHIEVERS – NOVEMBER 2014

Officer Gabriel
Officer Hernandez
Officer Gentile
Officer Ruiz
Officer Knight
Officer Smith
Officer Lorente
Detective Cruz
Parking Officer Acosta

Thanks for the good work!

LEO AWARDS NOMINEES

The annual LEO Awards nominations to honor and recognize deserving sworn and civilian personnel are due this month. The categories are:

- Uniform Services
- Investigative Services
- Crime Prevention/ Community Policing
- Specialized Services
- Safety Award
- Support Services

We have several nominations for SPD. Detective Marian Cruz was nominated for Investigative Services. Executive Assistant Dina Goldstein and NRO Dianna Hernandez were nominated for the Safety Award. Sgt. Julio Torres was nominated for Support Services. Congratulations and best of luck!

CRIME REDUCTION

Overall crime has decreased each of the past three months. This is due to the high visibility and proactive policing by all of you throughout the Town. Officers are also notifying residents when they find their garages left open, property and bicycles unsecured, and vehicles left unlocked or with the trunks open. Continue to stop and get out of your cars and talk to people and keep them informed. This is how community policing works best. Thanks for the great work and keeping Surfside safe!

SPECIAL INFORMATION/ COMMUNITY INITIATIVES/ LAW ENFORCEMENT EVENTS

The Surfside Police Department is implementing a new community initiative. We are collecting cell phones and donating them to a local domestic violence shelter. It is important to delete all your personal information from the cell phones including stored phone numbers, call history and text messages. Make sure that the service is disconnected to avoid any fees. Also be sure that the phone works and that the battery stays charged. A working charger must accompany the cell phone donation. If the phone doesn't work or you don't have the charger, please recycle the phone. The drop off location is at the Communications Unit of the Police Department. For further information please contact Neighborhood Resource Officer Dianna Hernandez.

SPD's 13th Citizens Police Academy concluded with a graduation party. The class was extremely successful and enjoyed by all who attended. I thank those who made it so successful: EA Dina Goldstein, NRO Hernandez, CSA Sanchez, Sgt. Torres, Officer Gabriel, Officer McGavern, Reserve Officer Jimenez, Reserve Officer Guzman and Hector Perez for their support and outstanding effort.

The Surfside Police Department is hosting a regular Women's Self Defense Classes for residents and police officers from 6:00 to 8:00 pm in the Community Center on Thursdays. Sgt. Julio Torres is the instructor. This class is free of charge. Dina Goldstein will coordinate the dates for the classes.

Some cities have reported their residents becoming victims of fraud or robbery when meeting with customers or sellers to conduct online transactions. The Surfside Police will offer residents a safe place to conduct their transactions at the police station. The premise is to conduct business in a safe environment to deter crime.



The Surfside Police Department is offering free residential and commercial security assessments for residents and business owners. Sgt. Matelis is the contact person to schedule the assessment.

The FDOT LAN meeting is on December 3, at 10:00 am at the Aventura Police Department. Lt. Williams will assign a rep to attend.

Miami-Dade PD is hosting a Police Product Expo at the Miami-Dade Public Safety Institute on December 5. Lt. Williams will attend.

A community meeting for residents to discuss parking issues and a pilot parking permit program for the 9400-9500 blocks of Byron Avenue is scheduled for December 9 at 6:00 pm in the training room.

The regional Criminal Investigations Unit intelligence meeting is December 11 at 10:00 am at SPD in the training room.

The Steering Committee for the Strike Force will meet on December 16 at 9:30 am at the HIDTA building. The Chief's Office will attend.

The Community Hanukah party is December 16, 5:30 – 7:30 pm in the Town Hall lot. Lt. Williams is responsible for the action plan and staffing.

The Ruth Broad K-8 School's Christmas Caroling event in the business district on December 17 at 2:00 pm. CSA Sanchez will assist with parking for the parents and an escort for the children.

The Police/ Prosecutor meeting is December 17 at 2:00 pm. Sgt. Matelis will assign a detective to attend.

The Bike with the Chief Ride is December 17, at 5:00 pm. All are welcome to participate.

SPD will host a Mobile Department of Motor Vehicles event for residents to apply for and renew their driver's licenses on December 18 from 9:30 to 2:30 in the training room.

SPD's annual Toy Drive and Holiday Party is December 19 at 3:00 pm in the Commission Chambers.

The monthly Starbucks – Coffee with the Cops is December 19 at 10:00 am. Residents, business persons, and visitors can meet with the Chief and his staff over coffee to discuss community issues or provide feedback on the Police Department.

The Hanukah Parade is December 21, at 3:00pm. Sgt. Alberto is responsible for the action plan and staffing with SPD, Bal Harbour PD and Bay Harbor Islands PD.

TRAINING

Building Searches and Active Shooter (multi-agency) – All sworn personnel
Basic and Advanced Crime Prevention – NRO Hernandez

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

I wish all of you and your families a happy, healthy and safe holiday!