

Bulletin

16-03

Date: March 4, 2016

**OFFICERS OF THE MONTH/CIVILIAN OF THE MONTH- FEBRUARY 2016-
OFFICER BOBBY GABRIEL, OFFICER JOSEPH MATTHEWS, OFFICER CRAIG
LOVELLETTE AND COMMUNICATIONS OPERATOR PETER FILIBERTO**

On February 5th, 2016, a witness contacted the Surfside Police Department and reported that he saw a subject enter a Grey Mercedes Benz parked in the 100 block of 95 Street and as the witness approached the subject fled on foot northbound on Collins Avenue. Communications Operator Filiberto immediately issued a detailed description of the subject over Municipal radio. Officers Bobby Gabriel and Joseph Matthews located a subject matching the description of the subject at the 9600 block of Collins Avenue. A Show Up was conducted where the witness positively identified the subject as the individual who entered the parked vehicle. Officer Gabriel and Sergeant Valino interviewed the subject and post Miranda the subject admitted to entering the vehicle. Contact was made with the owner of the vehicle who confirmed his vehicle was entered illegally. Upon further investigation officers found a vehicle registration in a backpack the subject was carrying with an address in Aventura. Officer Matthews contacted the Aventura Police Department and requested they check that address. Aventura PD made contact with the owner of a Silver Mazda SUV who advised they had visited a friend at the Waves Condominium (9455 Collins Avenue) earlier in the evening and had their vehicle burglarized but did not report it. Officer Lovellette responded to Aventura to complete that report. The subject was again interviewed by Officer Lovellette and Sergeant Valino and he also confessed to the second Auto Burglary. It is with great respect and appreciation that I commend the actions, dedication and professionalism of Officer Bobby Gabriel, Officer Joseph Matthews, Officer Craig Lovellette and Communications Operator Filiberto.

HIGH ACHIEVERS – FEBRUARY 2016

Officer Colonna
Officer Gabriel
Officer Knight
Officer Leonard
Officer Lorente
Officer Luke
Officer Mesa
Officer Ruiz
Officer Smith

VISUAL MESSAGING BOARD

We have received the new visual message board. The keys have been placed in the box in dispatch and the Sergeant's office. Training has been conducted with the Parking Enforcement Officers, Sergeants and SPD personnel.

POLICE DEPARTMENT RE-ACCREDITATION

The Surfside Police Department is an Accredited Law Enforcement Agency through "The Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Agencies (CFA), Inc." The Surfside Police Department under the leadership of Chief David Allen successfully achieved initial CFA Accreditation in 2009, and Re-Accreditation in 2012. The Surfside Police Department underwent its second Re-Accreditation assessment on January 20th-21st, 2016 that covered the 2012-2015 time frame. The on-site assessment was conducted by three CFA assessors and the Surfside Police Department was successful in the assessment and the CFA Team made a recommendation for Re-Accreditation status. The Re-Accreditation assessment is a rigorous process to ensure that law enforcement agencies are maintaining the highest standards of ethics, professionalism, and are utilizing best practices in conformance with established standards and the law. The recommendation of the CFA Assessment Team was presented to the full commission of the CFA on February 24, 2016 in Saint Augustine, Florida and the full CFA Commission voted unanimously to approve the Re-Accreditation of the Surfside Police Department for another three year period.

The Surfside Police Department is proud to be an accredited law enforcement agency through CFA and demonstrating to the community that the agency is committed to the highest standards of professional law enforcement service.

PERSONNEL TRANSFERS

Effective Monday, February 29, 2016, the following personnel transfers took effect:

Officer Kemuel Gambirazio will be assigned to Squad B and report to Sergeant J. Matelis.

Detective Edward Carrasquillo will be assigned to CIU and report to Sergeant R. Alberto.

PARKING ENFORCEMENT OFFICER ANGEL MELENDEZ

Congratulations are in order for Parking Enforcement Officer Angel Melendez. Effective March 14, 2016, Angel will begin his law enforcement career as a new police officer with the Aventura Police Department. Angel worked as a lifeguard for the Parks and Recreation Department before becoming a Parking Enforcement Officer for the Police Department. He attended the police academy last year on his own time while working full time for SPD. His last day of work with the Town of Surfside is March 13, 2016. Angel has been an excellent employee and will certainly be missed by all of us. I wish him the best of luck with his new career!

DIGITAL CAMERAS

Two digital cameras have been placed in dispatch. One is marked A/B and the other C/D. They are to be used by the Sergeants and Acting Sergeants of the squads indicated on the camera. One of the cameras is plugged into a computer and needs to be charged in that way. The other has a pack to charge the battery in an outlet and is fully charged at this time. They can both be downloaded onto a computer using the cable provided.

PUBLIX SUPERMARKET THEFT ARRESTS

Between October 13, 2015, and January 1, 2016, there were three occasions where wallets had been stolen from the purses of distracted elderly females at the Publix Supermarket located at 9400 Harding Avenue. The subject reportedly struck other Publix Supermarkets in surrounding areas.

On March 3rd, Derrick Hope, 56, was interviewed by Surfside detectives and confessed to committing all three crimes. He was charged with three counts of grand theft and one count of fraudulent use of credit card in connection with three separate crimes.

TOWN OF SURFSIDE LOADING ZONES

In an effort to enhance the flow of vehicular traffic on Harding Avenue and increase the availability of loading zones for businesses, the Town of Surfside has approved the following locations as loading zones between the hours of 6am–10am, Monday through Friday:

- 9500 block of Harding Avenue on the west-side in front of the CVS store (4 parking spaces)
- 9400 block of Harding Avenue on the west-side in front of the Publix Supermarket (4 parking spaces)
- 300 block of 95th Street on the south-side adjacent to the parking lot (3 parking spaces)

These spaces will allow sufficient parking for large trucks that need to unload or load items and place these vehicles outside of the residential areas of Surfside. The new loading zones will be operational beginning Friday 03-05-2016. The aforementioned additional loading zones supplement the existing permanent loading zones that are located in the business district at the following locations:

- 200 block of 95th Street on the south-side (1 parking space)
- 300 block of 95th Street on the south-side (extended area)
- 300 block of 95th Street on the north-side (extended area)

The additional loading zones coupled with the existing loading zones are expected to reduce double parking occurrences on Harding Avenue in the business district and therefore enhance traffic flow and reduce traffic crashes. Surfside Police Officers and Parking Enforcement Officers will monitor these areas for compliance.

BENEFIT FOR THE BUONICONTI FUND

On Saturday, March 5th, the Bal Harbour Shops will be hosting an invitation only benefit for the Buoniconti Fund to Cure Paralysis. Traffic congestion and delays are expected in the area of Collins Avenue and 96 Street as there are over 3 thousand guests expected to attend the event which will include a concert. Police officers will be stationed throughout the area assisting motorists and pedestrians with traffic control. The bulk of traffic is expected from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. and at 10:00 p.m. when the event is scheduled to conclude.

LESS-LETHAL SHOTGUNS

The Surfside Police Department has researched the use of less-lethal shotguns, which fire a bean-bag round, and determined that their use is consistent with the department's law enforcement mission. The less lethal shotgun option provides our officers another weapon to distract, disorient, or temporarily incapacitate offenders while keeping officers at a safe distance and allowing for the capture of a suspect without using deadly force. The Surfside Police Department will provide training/qualifications to all sworn officers on the Standard Operating Procedure for the less lethal shotguns and provide hands on training with the weapon during the month of March 2016. The less lethal shotguns will be assigned to all patrol sergeants, and acting patrol sergeants.

SPECIAL INFORMATION/COMMUNITY INITIATIVES/LAW ENFORCEMENT EVENTS

The Police Department received a DAVID Audit Site inspection from the Florida Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles on March 1st at 11:30 a.m. The audit ensured all that Surfside Police Department is in compliance with all regulations and practices of the Department of Florida Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles.

The supervisory staff meeting is March 10th at 5:00 p.m. in the training room.

Lieutenant John Bambis will be assisting the Bay Harbor Islands Police Department with their Mock Accreditation Process on March 10th and 11th, 2016. The Bay Harbor Islands PD is seeking initial accreditation with the Florida Commission for Law Enforcement Accreditation (CFA).

The Police/ Prosecutor meeting is March 16th at 2:00 p.m. Sgt. Alberto will assign a detective to attend.

The Tourist Board's Third Thursdays event is March 17th from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Two police officers and a parking enforcement officer will work the event.

The City of Miami Beach is hosting a Municipal Traffic Management Roundtable on March 21st at 2:00 p.m. Chief Allen will attend.

Sunny Isles Police Department will be conducting a Corporal Assessment on March 22nd and March 24th. Sergeant Alberto and Sergeant McKenna will assist with the assessment.

SPD will host a community blood drive on March 23rd from 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. The blood mobile will be in the Town Hall lot.

The Regional Criminal Investigations Unit intelligence meeting is March 24th at 10:00 a.m. at the North Miami Police Department. The Criminal Investigations Unit will attend.

The South Florida Money Laundering Strike Force meeting is on March 24th at 10:00 a.m. at the HIDTA building. Chief Allen will attend.

The monthly Starbucks – Coffee with the Cops is March 25th at 10:00 a.m. 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 monthly Bike with the Chief Ride is March 30th at 5:00 p.m. All are welcome to participate.

TRAINING COMPLETED IN FEBRUARY

SWAT Training- Sgt. Torres

Sniper Training- Sgt. Torres

Crisis Intervention Team Training- Sgt. McKenna, Ofc. Arch, Ofc. Campbell

UCR Crime Stats and Numbers- Sgt. Alberto and Detective Cruz

Initial Law Enforcement Response to Suicide Bombing Attacks- Sgt. Torres

TRAINING IN MARCH

SWAT Training- Sgt. Torres

Sniper Training- Sgt. Torres

Marijuana Impaired Driving Detection Training- Ofc. Luke and Ofc. Lorente

Crisis Intervention Team Training- Sgt. Torres, Det. Cruz, Ofc. Lovellette

Search and Arrest Warrant Preparation Training- Det. Carrasquillo

Police Applicant Background Investigation- Det. Cruz

How to Properly Document Employment Actions- All Supervisors