



SURFSIDE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Bulletin

22-05

Date: May 12, 2022

OFFICER OF THE MONTH – APRIL 2022 – DETECTIVE DIANA LEON

On April 19th, 2022, a male subject entered the Publix supermarket located at 9400 Harding Avenue and took 32 cans of baby formula without making any attempt to pay. The store's surveillance cameras captured the subject taking a total of \$575.68 dollars' worth of formula. The subject then fled in a silver, Jeep 4x4, with no tag attached. Detective Leon, who was already off-duty, heard the call and immediately began the inquiry. Detective Leon had previously investigated a theft of baby formula, was aware of the crime ring and the subjects surrounding this crime. She immediately reached out to a Miami-Dade Police Department detective and discovered he had arrested our subject recently. Once Detective Leon obtained the subject's information, she discovered the subject had a silver Jeep registered to his name which matched the description of the vehicle in which the subject had fled. To gather further evidence, Detective Leon reached out to surrounding police agencies and requested a License Plate Reader (LPR) search. The LPR revealed that the subject's vehicle was in the Surfside area 6 minutes prior to the subject entering Publix. Despite the subject's attempt to conceal his identity by removing the vehicle tag, Detective Leon was able to link the automobile to the scene by a sticker located on the rear of the vehicle.

Taking the initiative, Detective Leon coordinated a joint surveillance with the Miami Dade Police Department. On April 21st, 2022, surveillance was established at the subject's girlfriend's house and the subject was subsequently arrested. During the subject's interview, he provided Detective Leon with a full confession discovering he had committed the same crime in other municipalities. Detective Leon contacted those police agencies notifying them of the subject's arrest in an effort to close additional cases for those agencies.

Detective Diana Leon is commended for her exceptional detective work, outstanding work ethic and dedication to her profession. Detective Leon's comprehensive investigation resulted in the apprehension of a subject that committed crimes in multiple municipalities. Congratulations to Detective Diana Leon as the recipient of the April Officer of the Month award...well deserved!



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HIGH ACHIEVERS

Officer Arch
Officer Donoso
Officer Duran
Officer Lage
Officer Luke
Parking Enforcement Officer C. Acosta

SIGNIFICANT INVESTIGATIONS/INCIDENTS

Auto Theft
04/05/2022 at 0828 hours
9200 Collins Avenue – Residence Inn by Marriott
A rental vehicle was discovered missing from the hotel's parking garage. A review of the surveillance cameras revealed that an unknown tow truck removed the vehicle. However, the hotel and the rental company did not request the tow. The vehicle was entered as stolen into the database.

NATIONAL POLICE APPRECIATION WEEK

May is the month where the Nation celebrates Memorial Day and National Police Appreciation Week. The National Police Appreciation Week is celebrated annually and will take place this year from May 15th to May 21st, 2022. National Police Appreciation Week is a collaborative effort of many organizations dedicated to honoring America's law enforcement community.

In 1962, President John F. Kennedy signed a proclamation which designated May 15th as Peace Officers Memorial Day and the week in which that date falls as Police Week. Tens of thousands of law enforcement officers from around the world traditionally converge on Washington, D.C. to participate in a number of planned events which honor those that have paid the ultimate sacrifice. The Memorial Service began in 1982 as a gathering in Senate Park of approximately 120 survivors and supporters of law enforcement. Decades later, the event, more commonly known as National Police Week, has grown to a series of events which attracts thousands of survivors and law enforcement officers to our Nation's Capital each year.

Locally there are several events to honor the men and women of law enforcement.

The Law Enforcement Officers Memorial was established in 1980 to honor fallen officers from every police department and law enforcement agency within Miami-Dade County. In 2001, four black granite walls were erected; etched with the names of the gallant men and women who died serving the citizens of their community.



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APRIL COMMUNITY INITIATIVES / LAW ENFORCEMENT EVENTS

The Greater Miami Jewish Federation (GMJF) and the Secure Community Network (SCN) presented a national initiative with the Ministry of Diaspora Affairs of the State of Israel, exclusively for Security Directors and their law enforcement partners who contribute to the safety and security of protecting Jewish communities. Chief Torres was selected to accompany the South Florida delegation and participated in this prestigious security and law enforcement seminar in Israel from April 1st to April 7th, 2022.

The North Miami Police Department conducted a DUI checkpoint on April 1st at 995 NW 119th Street from 6:30 p.m. to 12:00 a.m. Officer Arch and Officer Valino represented the Surfside Police Department and participated in this event.

The Surfside Police Department hosted a community blood drive on April 3rd from 11:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. in the Town Hall municipal parking lot.

The FLOW (Florida Licensing on Wheels) was April 12th from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the Commission Chambers.

Code Enforcement hosted their monthly Special Master Hearing April 20th from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. in the Commission Chambers.

Chief Torres attended the Law Enforcement Coordination Meeting for Miami-Dade and Monroe Counties on April 20th at 10:30 a.m. at the United States Attorney's Office.

The Florida State Fraternal Order of Police hosted their 40th Annual Law Enforcement Memorial Services in Tallahassee, Florida. The Evening of Remembrance Service were held on April 24th and the State Memorial Service was held on April 25th, 2022. Sergeant Lorente and Officer Duran proudly represented the Surfside Police Department at this prestigious event as members of a multijurisdictional Honor Guard Team participating in the ceremony.

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) District Six in conjunction with the Sunny Isles Beach Police Department hosted a multi-agency traffic safety enforcement and educational detail on April 27th from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Law enforcement primarily focused on aggressive driving (as part of the Drive Safe campaign), distracted driving, red-light running, speeding, seatbelt use, move-over law compliance, bike/pedestrian safety compliance and general traffic safety. Officer Arch participated in this event.

The Surfside Police Department hosted a community blood drive on April 27th from 11:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. in the Town Hall municipal parking lot.

The Bike with the Chief community initiative was April 27th at 5:00 p.m. at Town Hall.



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The monthly Coffee with the Cops was April 28th at 10:00 a.m. at Starbucks.

Surfside, Aventura, Bay Harbor Islands, North Miami and Sunny Isles Beach Police Departments hosted a Multi-Agency Collection Day (electronics recycling, Shred-a-Thon and DEA Drug Takeback) on April 30th at Bill Bird Marina (Haulover Park) from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Ofc. Donoso and PEO A. Acosta and PEO C. Acosta participated in the event.

MAY COMMUNITY INITIATIVES / LAW ENFORCEMENT EVENTS

The North Miami Police Department hosted their annual Memorial Ceremony to honor their fallen police officers on May 3rd at 8:00 a.m. at the North Miami Police Department. Officer Mendoza proudly represented the Surfside Police Department as a member of a multijurisdictional Honor Guard Team participating in the ceremony.

The Commission honored our Police Department Telecommunicators with a proclamation for National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week at the Commission Meeting on May 10th. Communications Supervisor Susie Sperbeck and Communications Operators Tameka Burnell-Knight, Kenia Castillo and Jorge Villar were honored for their dedicated and exemplary service to the Town of Surfside.

The supervisory staff meeting is May 12th at 5:00 p.m. in the Police Training Room.

Chief Torres will attend the Annual Student-Run Breakfast Meeting presented by the Aventura Marketing Council on May 13th at 7:30 a.m. at Trump International Beach Resort in Sunny Isles Beach.

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) District Six in conjunction with the Miami Gardens Police Department will host a multi-agency traffic safety enforcement and educational detail on May 17th from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Law enforcement will be focusing primarily on aggressive driving (as part of the Drive Safe campaign), distracted driving, red-light running, speeding, seatbelt use, move-over law compliance, bike/pedestrian safety compliance and general traffic safety. Office Valino will participate in this event.

Code Enforcement will host their monthly Special Master Hearing May 18th from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. in the Commission Chambers.

The Police Benevolence Association (PBA) will host their annual Law Enforcement Awards Gala on May 21st at Trump National Doral. Officer Duran will proudly represent the Surfside Police Department as a member of a multijurisdictional Honor Guard Team participating in the ceremony.



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The FLOW (Florida Licensing on Wheels) is May 23rd from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the Commission Chambers.

The Surfside Police Department will host a community blood drive on May 25th from 11:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. in the Town Hall municipal parking lot.

The Bike with the Chief community initiative will be May 25th at 5:00 p.m. at Town Hall.

The monthly Coffee with the Cops is May 26th at 10:00 a.m. at Starbucks.

The Parks and Recreation Department will host their annual Memorial Day Ceremony on May 30th at 10:00 a.m. at Veterans Park. Captain Healy and Captain Marciante will attend this event. Sgt. Lorente, Ofc. Duran, Ofc. Howard and Ofc. Luke will participate as members of Police Department's Honor Guard Team participating in the ceremony.

TRAINING COMPLETED IN APRIL

Annual Autism Training PowerDMS – All Personnel

Annual Firearms Qualifications- Chief Torres, Capt. Healy, Capt. Marciante, Sgt. Alberto, Sgt. Cruz, Sgt. Torres, Det. Gabriel, Det. Leon, Ofc. Arch, Ofc. Campbell, Ofc. Duran, Ofc. Howard, Ofc. Knight, Ofc. Lovellette, Ofc. Matthews, Ofc. Smith, Ofc. Valino

Annual Patrol Rifle Qualifications- Sgt. Lorente, Det. Gabriel, Ofc. Donoso, Ofc. Gentile, Ofc. Mendoza, Ofc. Ruiz

Boating Safety Course – Sgt. Torres, Ofc. Donoso, Ofc. Duran, Ofc. Hernandez, Ofc. Ruiz

Coping with Tomorrow's Challenges of Combating Anti-Semitism and Global Terror – Chief Torres

Dealing with Heat Stress (LocalGov)- CCO Ruvin

FCIC Agency Coordinator Training – Ofc. Gentile

Knife Defense Edged Weapons and Tactics – Ofc. Donoso

RDS Training -Sgt. Torres

Level 2 Security Awareness Certification – AM Smith

Precision Handgun -Ofc. Gambirazio

Sea Turtle Lighting Workshop for Code Enforcement and Building Professionals – CCM

Santos-Alborna, CCO Novo, CCO Ruvin

Speed Measurement – Ofc. Saffo

Struggle Well Training Program- Ofc. Hernandez, Ofc. Lovellette, Ofc. Luke, Ofc. Saffo, Ofc. Valino

Successful Customer Interactions- CCO Ruvin

SWAT Training- Sgt. Torres