

## Surfside Police Department



## Award and/or commendation

Date of occurrence: December 7, 2011

Employee's Names: Sergeant Rory Alberto, Detective Alberto Knight, and Reserve

Officer Rolando Baldomero

Classification: Detective Sergeant, Detective, Reserve Officer

Unit/Division: Criminal Investigations Unit

Award/Commendation type and recommendations: Officer of the Month

## Narrative:

Over a period of several months residents in the 9100 Block of Collins Avenue who were away for the summer began returning to their units to discover that silverware was missing. There were no signs of forced entry, the apartments were not ransacked and no other items were taken. Even the building management was unaware that the apartments had been entered.

Sgt. Rory Alberto and Detective Alberto Knight researched and found that there were five (5) similar crimes reported at that location dating back to 2008. They began their investigation and requested Reserve Officer Rolando Baldomero assist them with polygraphs on employees of the building.

Reserve Officer Baldomero spent an entire day administering polygraph examinations to seven (7) building employees. As a result of his detailed and thorough testing procedure the polygraph results led detectives to a possible suspect.

The suspect, a security guard at the building was brought in for questioning immediately following the end of his shift. After several hours the detectives gained the trust of the suspect and he confessed to the crimes and selling the stolen goods in Miami Beach. The suspect was subsequently charged with five (5) counts of burglary and five (5) counts of grand theft.

In an attempt to recover the stolen silverware the detectives then had the suspect take them to the area where he sold the items. The detectives contacted their counterparts in Miami Beach PD and advised them of the information they had in the hopes of identifying the person who bought the stolen silverware. Although unsuccessful in recovering the stolen silverware the detectives put forth a great effort and are still actively trying to locate the person who bought the silverware.

I would like to take this opportunity to commend Sgt. Alberto, Detective Knight and Reserve Officer Baldomero for their hard work, tireless effort and dedication in this case that led to the arrest of the individual responsible for committing five burglaries. They worked together as a team and displayed professionalism, patience and excellent interrogation skills in eliciting a confession from the suspect.

I would also like to recommend them for Officer of the Month for December 2011.

| Recommended by: Assistant Chief Di Censo | <b>Date:</b> <u>December 8, 2011</u> |
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|  |                                      |
| Chief of Police:                         | Date:                                |