



Date of occurrence: April 17, 2016

Employee Name: Micah Smith

Classification: Police Officer

Unit/Division: Patrol

Award/Commendation type: Letter of Commendation

Narrative:

On April 17, 2016 at 0420 hours, Officer Smith while patrolling the residential area observed a bicycle laying in the roadway in the middle of the 9200 block of Abbott Avenue. Officer Smith immediately advised over the radio to dispatch that he was going to check the area. Back up officers arrived and assisted. Officers had just checked the area 10 minutes prior and the roadway was clear. Officer Smith using this information along with other officers made contact with several homeowners on that block, one of them advised that his bicycle was stolen from his front patio but it was not the one on the roadway. Officers continued to check the homes on that block and observed a second bicycle hidden from sight between a fence and a van parked at a residence in the 9200 block of Abbott Avenue. Officer Smith made contact with the homeowner who advised that neither of the two bicycles belonged to him. As Officer Smith checked the perimeter of that home he noticed a subject crouched in the bushes hiding from him. The subject was detained and read Miranda. Post Miranda the subject stated he had seen the officer checking the area attempted to hide because he was a felon but denied any involvement with taking any of the bicycles. One of the bicycles belonged to a homeowner who had previously been contacted and had noticed his bicycle missing, it was returned to him. The subject who had an extensive criminal past was unable to dispel the officers concerns for the safety of persons or property in the area and was arrested for Loitering and Prowling. Because of Officer Smith's proactive patrolling, investigating and checking the area on foot this career criminal was arrested and taken off the streets before he could commit a crime. Officer Smith should be commended for being proactive and taking the extra step in keeping the Town of Surfside safe.