

Surfside Police Department



Award and/or commendation

Date of occurrence: July 18, 2019

Employee Name: Tammy Campbell

Classification: Acting Sergeant

Unit/Division: Patrol

Award/Commendation type and recommendations: Letter of Commendation

Officer of the Month

Narrative:

On the morning of Thursday, July 18, 2019, at approximately 1119 hours, patrol officers were dispatched to the 9500 block of Collins Avenue in regards to a male on the construction site who was possibly electrocuted and having difficulty breathing. Acting Sergeant Tammy Campbell was the supervisor on duty and immediately responded to the location. Acting Sergeant Campbell ensured Fire Rescue was in route along with additional officers to set up a command post. Acting Sergeant Campbell proceeded to the top floor of the construction area, where paramedics were attempting to revive the male. Once it was confirmed the male had passed away, Acting Sergeant Campbell immediately took charge of the scene, ensuring the witnesses were isolated from other workers, summoned detectives to the scene for interviews, and made sure OSHA was notified of the incident and responding.

Minutes later, a second call for service was broadcasted in reference to a suicidal male armed with a handgun. The information received was a male was on the telephone with a crisis counselor and parked in a vehicle in the area of 94th Street and Collins Avenue. Acting Sergeant Campbell heard the broadcast of the call and immediately assumed command of that situation as well. She responded to the area where the male was on the phone with a crisis counselor. After locating the vehicle, Acting Sergeant Campbell coordinated communication via the dispatcher to give the male specific instructions prior to exiting his vehicle. After a few minutes, the male began to exit the vehicle. Acting Sergeant Campbell directed officers on scene and issued verbal commands to the male, who was taken into custody without incident. Officers located a loaded firearm in the vehicle. The male was transported to the hospital for further evaluation.

The following day, the male showed up at the police station to retrieve his firearm. Acting Sergeant Campbell immediately notified the command staff of the situation and subsequently discovered the subject had additional firearms in his vehicle that was parked at the police station. He advised he wanted to retrieve his handgun and sell all of his firearms. Acting Sergeant Campbell established a good rapport with the male who subsequently made the decision to turn over all his firearms to the police department for destruction.

These events are examples of how Acting Sergeant Campbell operates on a daily basis. The leadership and calmness she displayed especially in the time of crisis are second to none. She responded and managed two critical incidents back to back seamlessly and prioritized her responsibilities. Once the suicidal male call was stabilized, Acting Sergeant Campbell returned to the scene of the electrocution and continued to coordinate scene security for the duration of the investigation while managing other calls for service.

These are attributes supervisors acquire with years of experience and Acting Sergeant Campbell has honed these skills utilizing them on a daily basis. She is to be commended for her ability to supervise multiple critical incidents simultaneously along with her leadership, professionalism and communication skills. Congratulations to Acting Sergeant Tammy Campbell as the recipient of Officer of the Month...well deserved!