



Employee Name: Dina Goldstein

Classification: Executive Assistant to the Chief

Award/Commendation type and recommendations: Letter of Commendation

Narrative:

The Surfside Police Department traditionally hosts an annual Holiday Toy Giveaway Party. Due to the continuing COVID 19 concerns, the event was reconfigured for the safety of the children, families and participating personnel. The Police Department began this year's holiday season of giving with their 13th Annual Toy Drive.

Beginning in December, Executive Assistant to the Chief Dina Goldstein, the heart and soul of the Toy Giveaway from the inception, developed this year's event. There were several options available for donations to be collected. Dina created an online toy registry on Amazon as well as with a local toy store and a festive collection box was located in Town Hall. Dina resourcefully established an organized system to easily distribute the toys and coordinated an efficient toy drop off system for the children based on location. Dina along with Sergeant Marian Cruz and Parking Enforcement Officers Cristhian Acosta and Willy Perez, spoke to the parent's obtaining pertinent information about the children and provided a date and time for delivery. Dina prepared 50 bags of toys specified for each child on the list, based on age, gender and interests/hobbies.

Parking Enforcement Officer Alain Acosta contacted each person on the list providing instructions and the anticipated time of arrival. Interim Chief John Healy, Sergeant Jay Matelis, PEO Alain Acosta and Dina personally delivered the bags of toys to 25 grateful families in need (over 53 excited children) in a two-day span.

The Surfside Police Department's 13th annual Holiday Toy Drive embodied the spirit of giving and was especially significant this year with so many families affected by the pandemic. The success is solely due to the personnel who gave their time and effort in going above and beyond to make it a great holiday for needy children. Seeing the smiles on the children's faces was priceless and the reason we do this every year. Dina is commended for her tireless dedication in developing a safe way to continue this long standing charitable and very rewarding tradition. Congratulations to Executive Assistant to the Chief Dina Goldstein as the recipient of the December Civilian of the Month award...well deserved!