



# SURFSIDE POLICE DEPARTMENT

## *AWARD OR COMMENDATION*

**Date of occurrence:** June 24, 2022

**Employee Name:** Antonio Marciante, Marian Cruz, Jay Matelis

**Classification:** Captain and Sergeants

**Unit/Division:** Command Staff, CIU, Patrol

**Award/Commendation type and recommendations:** Officer of the Month

The Town of Surfside honored the 98 victims, their families and survivors with Remembrance Events on the one-year anniversary of the Champlain Towers South building collapse. A Police Officer's oath "to protect and serve" was forever redefined June 24, 2021 during this unthinkable situation. Captain Marciante, Sergeant Cruz and Sergeant Matelis proudly demonstrated these characteristics while establishing and executing the action plan for the Memorial Ceremonies. In the overnight hours on June 24, 2022, a candlelight vigil was held onsite for invited guests only and a public memorial ceremony took place onsite at 10:00 a.m. with a large crowd in attendance including dignitaries, law enforcement personnel and rescue workers.

As the incident commander, Captain Marciante began planning for this momentous event in May 2022 along with Sergeants Cruz and Matelis. An intricate operational plan providing the highest level of security for the remembrance events was created to include logistics, scheduling of internal and external personnel, and traffic mitigation.

As the Security Supervisor, Sergeant Cruz was given the responsibility of securing the interior. As the Traffic and Media Supervisor, Sergeant Matelis was in command of traffic mitigation and exterior security. Both of these essential roles involved coordinating the critical locations for law enforcement personnel to be stationed for maximum efficiency. The Town of Surfside staff assisting were also given guidance and assignments.

Captain Marciante, Sergeants Cruz and Matelis attended several meetings, walk throughs, and briefings in order to ensure both events ran smoothly and safely for all assisting with the services as well as in attendance. Furthermore, the preparation for the memorial involved countless hours and extra-long work days.

It is always gratifying to observe members of the Police Department performing praiseworthy actions and recognized for their extraordinary service to the community. Captain Marciante and Sergeants Cruz and Matelis are commended for embracing this immense undertaking and completing it exceptionally well. Congratulations to Captain Antonio Marciante, Sergeant Marian Cruz and Sergeant Jay Matelis as the recipients of the June Officer of the Month award...well deserved!

**Chief of Police:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** 8-15-2022