

## POLICE BEAT

### DEPARTMENT BENEFITS FROM RECENT POLICE TRAINING

#### OFFICERS NOW CARRY TOURNIQUETS

The Surfside Police Department recently became the first agency in Miami-Dade County to issue mandatory affixed tourniquet holders to all officers' holsters, ensuring every officer will have a tourniquet if needed. All SPD Officers have been trained to provide basic first aid and completed a "Stop the Bleed and Wound Packing" course. In an emergency, it is the officer's duty to render first aid to themselves, other officers or the public. Severe bleeding can cause shock quickly and this enables officers to prevent it. Thanks to the Town Administration for the support in maintaining a progressive law enforcement agency with exceptional training and equipment to best serve and protect our community.



#### ANNUAL FIREARMS TRAINING

The Surfside Police Department recently completed annual firearms training. It included a mandated Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) Use of Force Course and scenario based and discretionary shooting. The SPD transitioned from their 40 caliber handguns to 9MM handguns.

#### EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO THE CHIEF DINA GOLDSTEIN COMPLETES TRAINING

Executive Assistant to the Chief Dina Goldstein recently completed the Florida Police Chief's Association Executive/Administrative Assistant CORE three-part Training in Orlando. This final course of the series included personal and professional goal setting, communication, stress management, work-life balance, financial planning and adapting to change. The training was also a one-of-a-kind networking opportunity for Police Executive and Administrative Assistants.



### APRIL OFFICER OF THE MONTH - DETECTIVE MENDOZA

Detective Andres Mendoza joined the SPD Criminal Investigations Unit in 2020, contributing eight years of investigative experience from the Doral Police. While the COVID-19 pandemic brought new challenges to law enforcement, Detective Mendoza met each one with success. His calm and professional demeanor was vital. He has cleared many cases with arrests and here are two particular cases that deserve special recognition:

Detective Mendoza was assigned a fraud case in June 2020, involving a man posing as a contractor who defrauded a resident of \$2,400. The man was hired to fix a roof and paid upon completion. It was later discovered the repair was not completed and the man could not be contacted. Through his investigative skills, Detective Mendoza found the subject, who had victimized others in Miami-Dade. It took months of investigative work for Detective Mendoza to gather enough evidence to prove the subject committed the crime in Surfside. He presented the case to the Miami-Dade State Attorney's Office and an arrest warrant was approved for the subject. After searching several old addresses, Detective Mendoza located the subject who was arrested.

Detective Mendoza was assigned a hit-and-run investigation when a driver fled and eluded Surfside Officers.



Prior to fleeing on foot, the driver struck a bicyclist, who was not injured. The subject abandoned the vehicle he was driving at a nearby loading dock. Detective Mendoza interviewed witnesses and canvassed for surveillance video. He found an image of the driver from video, which led to the hotel where he was staying. Although the subject was back in New York, Detective Mendoza

gathered sufficient evidence to prove the subject committed these crimes. After months of working tirelessly, an arrest warrant was issued with full extradition in February 2021. Detective Mendoza contacted the New York Police Warrants Division, in an effort to locate the subject. He was located, arrested by the New York Police Department and extradited to Miami-Dade. Detective Andres Mendoza conducted two exceptional investigations, both leading to arrests. He is dedicated to his profession, commended for his exceptional work and commitment to the community he proudly serves. Congratulations as the recipient of the April Officer of the Month award...well deserved!

### SURFSIDE REPRESENTED AT POLICE MEMORIAL CEREMONY

The 40th Annual Miami-Dade Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Ceremony was held at Tropical Park on May 6, 2021. The Annual Miami-Dade Law Enforcement Officers Memorial was established in 1981 to honor fallen officers from law enforcement agencies in Miami-Dade County. Surfside Police Sergeant Alex Lorente and Officer Marianne Durante participated in a prestigious honor Guard Team. Captain Marciante attended the event.