

## Police Chief Julio Yero to Retire November 1

It is with much emotion that I will retire as the Town of Surfside Chief of Police November 1st. It has been an honor, privilege and the highlight of my 38-year career in law enforcement to serve as your Police Chief. My focus and direction for the Police Department has been to follow our mission statement of providing the highest level of police service to the community in a professional, courteous, ethical and judicious manner, always striving to maintain the highest quality of life and safety for all who live, work and visit our beautiful community. It has been a blessing to work with and alongside exceptional professionals dedicated to service. We have worked tirelessly to keep Surfside safe and navigated through unimaginable circumstances. The Covid-19 global pandemic and devastating collapse of the Champlain Towers South tragedy have forever impacted our community and proven that together we are Surfside Strong.

I am pleased and proud to say our Police Department is in exceptional standing. We are a well-respected state-accredited law enforcement agency with extraordinary



relationships among local, state and federal partners. Our police officers and civilian personnel have received the highest level of training and more importantly are good people that give of themselves to help others and hold each other up. Our Command Staff, Captain John Healy and Captain Antonio Marciante are experienced and respected leaders, committed to serving Surfside and I know they will continue the SPD trajectory of excellence into the future.

In closing, thank you Surfsiders! Having returned to SPD in 2014, where I began my law enforcement career in the 1980s, is a story book ending. I am forever grateful to all of the special people in the Surfside Police Department and Town staff for sharing this journey with me. As I enter a new chapter in life, I look forward to time with my family, sharing new adventures with Barbara, my wife of 33 years, special moments with my son and daughter, and watching my first granddaughter!

*Cherish each day,  
Chief Julio Yero*

### ACCREDITATION TEAM INVITES PUBLIC COMMENTS ABOUT THE SURFSIDE POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Surfside Police Department is an Accredited Law Enforcement Agency through The Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation (CFA). The Surfside Police Department successfully achieved initial CFA Accreditation in 2009 and re-accreditation in 2012, 2016 and 2019. The Surfside Police Department is proud to be an accredited law enforcement agency through CFA and demonstrating to the community that the agency is committed to the highest standards of professional law enforcement service. A team of assessors from the Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation (CFA) will arrive on December 7, 2021 to examine all aspects of the Surfside Police Department's policies and procedures, management, operations and support services; the Surfside Police Department has to comply with more than 250 standards in order to receive reaccredited status. Many of the standards are critical to life, health, and safety issues.

As part of the on-site assessment, Surfside Police Department members and the general public are invited to offer comments to the assessment team. A copy of the standards is available through the CFA's website: [www.flaccreditation.org/standards.htm](http://www.flaccreditation.org/standards.htm)

For more information regarding CFA or for persons wishing to offer written comments about the Surfside Police Department's ability to meet the standards of accreditation, please send correspondence to: CFA, Post Office Box 1489, Tallahassee, Florida 32302 or email: [flaccreditation@fdle.state.fl.us](mailto:flaccreditation@fdle.state.fl.us)

The assessment team comprises of law enforcement practitioners from similar agencies. The assessors will review written materials, interview individuals, and visit offices and other places where compliance can be observed.

Once the CFA assessors complete their review of the Surfside Police Department, they report back to the full Commission, which will then decide if the agency is to receive reaccredited status. The Surfside Police Department's reaccreditation occurs every three (3) years. Verification by the team that the Surfside Police Department meets the Commission's standards is part of a voluntary process to gain or maintain accreditation, which is a highly prized recognition of law enforcement professional excellence.

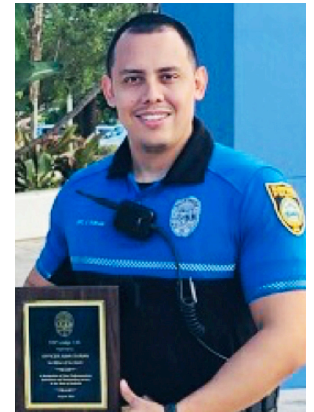
## POLICE

### OFFICERS OF THE MONTH - AUGUST 2021

## Officers Rescue Resident from House Fire

On August 2, 2021 Police officers were dispatched to a residential fire on Abbott Avenue. The officers saw heavy smoke coming from the interior of the home. Family members were outside, but their elderly and disabled grandmother was still inside in a bedroom. Officers Ronald Donoso, John Gentile and Dianna Hernandez were led to the nearest window to where the fire was emanating. The officers used their fire extinguishers to combat the fire. Then Officers Donoso and Duran entered the home and found the woman with the assistance of a family member. The officers carried her out using a blanket as a gurney. Miami-Dade Fire Department Engine 76 treated and released the elderly woman on the scene. The cause of the fire was an overheated lithium scooter battery in the bedroom. Thankfully, there were no serious injuries. The fire caused approximately \$5,000 worth of damage to the residence. The home was deemed safe by both MDFD and FPL. The family temporarily relocated to a friend's home.

Officers Ronald Donoso and Juan Duran are commended for their swift actions resulting in the rescue of a disabled woman. Their qualities are indicative of the caliber, bravery, dedication and training of the Surfside Police Department. Congratulations Ronald and Juan on this well-deserved honor!



Officer Ronald Donoso    Officer Juan Duran

## OFFICERS SERVE ON HONOR GUARD TEAMS



In August Surfside Police Officers proudly represented the department by serving as members of multijurisdictional Honor Guard Teams at several memorial events for South Florida officers. Above at left, Sgt. Alejandro Lorente and Detective Andres Mendoza at the funeral of Florida Highway Trooper Lazaro Febles. Above at right, Sgt. Alejandro Lorente at a celebration of life service for Coral Springs Police Sergeant Patrick Madison. Also, Officers Ronald Donoso and Bryant Luke were in the Honor Guard Team at the memorial service of Miami Beach Police Officer Edward "Eddie" Perez.

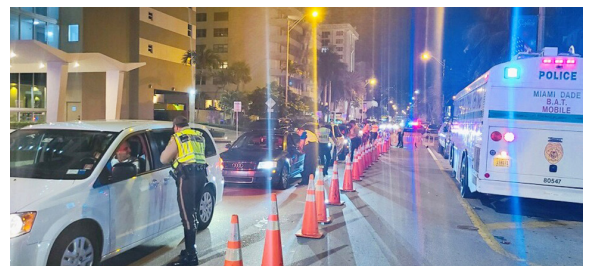
## CITIZENS POLICE ACADEMY IN 2022

Due to the increase in cases of COVID-19 in Florida, the Surfside Police Department is postponing the Citizens Police Academy until 2022. We are excited to resume next year and look forward to meeting the 2022 class!



## POLICE HOLD DUI CHECK POINT

The Miami-Dade Police Department DUI Unit in conjunction with the Surfside Police Department conducted a DUI checkpoint on 93rd Street and Collins Avenue. This operation showed great community awareness and partnership, resulting in 40 traffic citations, 19 traffic warnings and two felony traffic arrests. Surfside Police Officers Loxley Arch, Juan Duran, Craig Lovellette, Bryant Luke and Jose Valino participated in this event.



## SURFSIDE POLICE TO OFFER RESIDENTS SOME R & R

The Police Department is implementing a new community initiative: R & R (Residents and Radar). Most residents have seen the hand-held Radar equipment used by police departments for speed detection and enforcement. Surfside residents will have the opportunity to conduct radar with members of the police department throughout the neighborhood. More information about this exciting new program will be forthcoming.