

POLICE OFFICERS OF THE MONTH



The Honor Guard is a ceremonial unit comprising sworn members of the police department who maintain an impeccable appearance, high moral standards, discipline and serve as the official representatives of the Surfside Police Department. The primary role of the unit is to provide funeral honors for fallen police officers. Honor Guard officers must have the strength to withstand overwhelming emotions when they're called upon to serve in times of tragedy.

Each year, the Honor Guard performs in dozens of high visibility and high-profile ceremonies in Miami-Dade County and throughout Florida, proudly representing the Surfside Police Department as members of multijurisdictional Honor Guard Teams. Sergeant Alejandro Lorente and Officers Ronald Donoso, Juan Duran, Marianne Howard, Bryant Luke, and Andres Mendoza make up the Honor Guard. Sergeant Lorente oversees the Honor Guard. Officer Howard contributes a unique service to this team and ceremonial events. She sings and performs a beautiful rendition of the National Anthem.

The Honor Guard also performs ceremonial duties at special events such as the Town's Parks and Recreation Department's annual Memorial Day and Veterans Day events. Members of the Honor Guard also participate in the annual National Police Week in Washington, D.C. in May, and most significantly, the yearly Miami-Dade Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Ceremony at Tropical Park. Honor Guard representatives participate in the presentation of colors at the South Florida PBA Law Enforcement Awards Gala and the Police Department's annual Miami-Dade County Association of Chiefs of Police (MDCACP) dinner.

These remarkable individuals are recognized for their exceptional service as members of the Honor Guard, their dedication to the Town, and embodying the Police Department's core values while performing their significant responsibilities with integrity and in an exemplary manner. Congratulations to Sergeant Alejandro Lorente and Officers Ronald Donoso, Juan Duran, Marianne Howard, Bryant Luke, and Andres Mendoza as the recipients of the November Officer of the Month award...well deserved!

HOW DOES YOUR GARDEN GROW?

The winter months are a great time to cultivate your garden. Keep these tips in mind for a Florida-Friendly landscape that complies with Miami-Dade County and Town fertilizer regulations.



Don't use phosphorus

Our soils are already rich in phosphorus, so your plants don't need it. Adding too much phosphorus pollutes Biscayne bay. Look for products that are phosphorus-free.



Don't fertilizer near a waterway or stormdrain

Excess fertilizer that is not absorbed by plants runs down the drain or into the water when it rains. To keep fertilizer out of the Bay, give fertilizer a 20-foot buffer around connections to the water.



Use slow release nitrogen

Using a fertilizer mix that is at least 65% slow release avoids a big release of nutrients during a rainstorm and increases the likelihood that your fertilizer will be used by your plants.

The Town maintains public landscaping using glyphosate-free herbicides that are consistent with Florida-Friendly landscape laws. Tips are shared from Miami Waterkeeper.