

## POLICE BEAT

### Police Department Receives Re-Accreditation



Lieutenant John Bambis (third from left) was recognized by Chief Allen at the Town Commission meeting for his outstanding leadership, commitment and dedication to the Town of Surfside. The Surfside Police Department achieved re-accreditation by the Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation in February. His diligence is greatly appreciated.

### February Officers & Civilian of the Month

Congratulations to Officers Bobby Gabriel, Joseph Matthews, Craig Lovellette and Communications Operator Peter Filiberto for being named Officers and Civilian of the Month. A witness contacted the Surfside Police Department to report someone enter a car parked in the 100 block of 95 Street. As the witness approached, the subject fled on foot to Collins Avenue. Communications Operator Filiberto issued a detailed description and Officers Bobby Gabriel and Joseph Matthews located a man matching the description. The witness positively identified him. Officer Gabriel and Sergeant Valino interviewed him and he admitted entering the vehicle. They also found a vehicle registration with an Aventura address in the subject's backpack. Officer Matthews contacted the Aventura Police Department and the owner of a silver Mazda was located. He stated he had visited a friend in Surfside earlier in the evening and his vehicle was burglarized but not reported. Officer Lovellette responded to Aventura to complete that report. The subject was again interviewed by Officer Lovellette and Sergeant Valino and confessed to the second auto burglary.



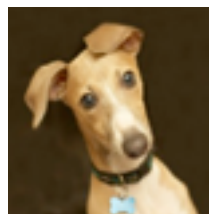
(L-R) Chief David Allen, Off. Joseph Matthews, Off. Bobby Gabriel, Communications Operator Peter Filiberto and Captain Julio Yero. Not pictured: Officer Craig Lovellette.

### Do Children at Play Signs Protect our Kids?

The answer is no. The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) reported studies in cities where Children at Play signs were widely posted in residential areas, those areas showed no evidence of having reduced pedestrian crashes, vehicle speed or legal liability. Further, if the signs encourage parents to believe the children have an added degree of protection, then a greater disservice results. For information, [www.dot.state.fl.us/safety/6-Resources/FAQ.shtm](http://www.dot.state.fl.us/safety/6-Resources/FAQ.shtm)



### Be Safe and Register Your Dog With PD



Surfside residents have an opportunity to protect their dogs by registering them with the Surfside Police Department. If a dog is lost or found, the police can identify the pet and contact the owner.

Registration forms are available in Dispatch at the Police Department. When registering, residents also have the option of receiving a free dog tag for your pet's collar. The dog tag will have the Police Department's telephone number and a registration number to identify your dog.

When registering, please provide contact information, a color picture of your dog and indicate if the canine has a chip or is tattooed. For more than one dog, complete a separate form for each pet. There is no charge for this service. For further information, please contact Dina Goldstein at (305) 861-4862 or [dgoldstein@townofsurfsidefl.gov](mailto:dgoldstein@townofsurfsidefl.gov).