

POLICE BEAT

Marianne Durante is Newest Surfside Police Officer



Chief David Allen swears in Marianne Durante as the Police Department's newest Officer.

Marianne Durante, a Surfside resident with a long association with the Town, was recently sworn in as the newest officer in the Police Department. A former teacher who grew up in Egypt, Marianne became a Surfside resident in 2002 and raised her son in the community. She earned a Bachelor's degree in Special Education in 2012 and worked with students with disabilities. In 2015, Marianne decided to pursue a dream of working in law enforcement. She worked full time while attending the police academy at Miami-Dade College. She graduated in September and was awarded the Harry Everest Overall Outstanding Trainee award. Congratulations and welcome, Marianne!



Surfside Police Department participated in a Police Officer Assistance Trust (POAT) event at Aventura Mall on December 3 to collect donations for spouses and children of fallen officers. POAT is an organization dedicated to the law enforcement community of Miami-Dade County by providing assistance to the officers and their families in the times of hardship and personal crisis. During the holiday season, POAT volunteers collect at malls throughout the County. Volunteering was Officer Bryant Luke and Assistant to the Chief, Dina Goldstein along with officers from other departments.

OFFICERS OF THE MONTH

Investigation Results in a Quick Arrest

Surfside Detectives Sergeant Marian Cruz, Kemuel Gambirazio and Edward Carrasquillo were named Officers of the Month for their efforts in arresting a doorman for lewd and lascivious conduct and providing drugs to a child.

The detectives answered a call from a mother who had discovered her child was "sexting" with their building's doorman. They reviewed the text messages and confirmed there were explicit conversations between the subject and the juvenile about sex and drugs. Detective Sergeant Cruz and Detective Carrasquillo conducted a controlled text message conversation between the child and the subject. The subject offered to provide marijuana to the child.

The following day, Detective Carrasquillo and Detective Gambirazio approached the subject in the parking lot and found marijuana inside his shirt pocket.

At the Police Station, the doorman gave a full confession, including providing drugs and sending sexual text messages. The subject was arrested for lewd and lascivious conduct on a child, electronic transmission harmful to minors, possession of controlled substance (Xanax) and possession of marijuana. Detective Sergeant Marian Cruz, Detective Edward Carrasquillo and Detective Kemuel Gambirazio's skillful and professional investigation resulted in a confession and arrest in just four days.



(L-R) Detective Kemuel Gambirazio, Detective Edward Carrasquillo, Chief David Allen, Detective Sgt. Marian Cruz.

Dept. of Motor Vehicles to Visit on Feb. 16

Outreach Specialists from the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (DMV) will be on-site at Town Hall to take care of your driver's license needs on Wednesday, February 16, 2017 from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the **Commission Chambers**, second floor. Contact Dina Goldstein (305) 861-4862 and check the identification requirements on the Town website: www.townofsurfsidefl.gov.