



SURFSIDE POLICE DEPARTMENT

AWARD OR COMMENDATION

Date of occurrence: January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023

Employee Name: Ronald Donoso

Classification: Police Officer

Unit/Division: Patrol

Award/Commendation type and recommendations: 2023 Officer of the Year

The Surfside Police Department has selected Officer Ronald Donoso as the Police Department's Officer of the Year for 2023. Officer Donoso began his praiseworthy career with the Town of Surfside in July of 2017 as a Community Service Aide and was quickly promoted to the position of Police Officer in December of 2017. In his six-year tenure with the Police Department, Officer Donoso received officer of the year in 2022, six officer of the month awards and praise from the community.

Officer Donoso was selected by his peers to receive this prestigious award for his overall performance throughout the year, his positive outlook, and his unrelenting support to his Surfside family. Officer Donoso is commended for his commitment, levelheaded patrol practices, and strong work ethic demonstrated on a daily basis. Furthermore, Officer Donoso was the monthly high achiever seven times for his enforcement statistics which were amongst the highest in patrol including 310 traffic citations, and four felony and six misdemeanor arrests.

In addition to his daily responsibilities, Officer Donoso is a distinguished member of the Honor Guard serving as an official representative of the Surfside Police Department. 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 representing the Police Department as members of multijurisdictional Honor Guard Teams. They also perform ceremonial duties in Town special events such as the Parks and Recreation Department's annual Memorial Day and Veterans Day events as well as the Police Department's annual Miami-County County Association of Chiefs of Police dinner. Officer Donoso is also a member of the inaugural Auxiliary Marine Patrol Officer (AMPO) Program established in March 2022.



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On February 20, 2023 at approximately 11:58 a.m., Officer Donoso was dispatched to an emergency call for service of a woman in distress in the area of the 9300 block of Harding Avenue. Officer Donoso along with additional Surfside Police Officers canvased the area with negative results. Officer Donoso proceeded to the 300 block of 93rd Street walking towards the house in the corner of Harding Avenue and 93rd Street. Officer Donoso opened the side gate of the home announcing himself as a Surfside Police Officer hearing a woman inside the home ask for help. Officer Donoso entered the home through an unlocked side door discovering an unconscious female sitting on a chair slumped over a table. Officer Donoso immediately requested support from Miami-Dade Fire Rescue for the female in need of emergency medical assistance. Miami-Dade Fire Rescue transported her to Mount Sinai Hospital for treatment

On May 2, 2023, Officer Donoso was dispatched to a call for service at 9200 Collins Avenue (Residence Inn by Marriott) regarding a 911 hang-up. Officer Donoso was in route to the call when he observed unusual behavior from a female at the Northwest corner of Collins Avenue and 90th Street. She was leaning against the concrete wall with a shirt covering her head. Officer Donoso proceeded to his assigned call however he remained concerned for the wellbeing of the female. Once the call was cleared, Officer Donoso responded to the location she was last seen noticing she was now sitting down. Without hesitation, Officer Donoso approached her and asked if she was alright. She replied she needed medical help because she believed she was having a stroke. Officer Donoso immediately requested assistance from Miami-Dade Fire Rescue who treated the patient and released her on scene.

Officer Donoso' s police instincts and proactive policing were proficiently exhibited during both of these critical calls for service. Officer Donoso was awarded officer of the month accolades for both of these incidents due to his praiseworthy actions, sense of urgency and dedication to law enforcement.

Officer Donoso has earned the upmost respect from his colleagues and his accomplishments are indicative of the level of character and training he possesses. He embodies the Police Department's core values and performs his significant responsibilities with integrity and in an exemplary manner. Officer Donoso demonstrates the highest standards of professionalism as he proudly serves the Surfside community. Congratulations to Officer Ronald Donoso as the recipient of the 2023 Surfside Police Department Officer of the Year Award...a well-deserved honor!