

Police Department Names 2016 Officer of the Year and Civilian of the Year

Sergeant Marian Cruz has been named as the 2016 Surfside Police Officer of the Year. She was awarded the November Officer of the Month Award, received three written commendations and many congratulatory and thank you letters for her excellent work and significant arrests. Marian previously was a detective in the Criminal Investigation Unit (CIU) several years until her promotion to sergeant in 2016. Marian made 11 felony arrests in 2016, more than double the number of all others. Marian was also vital in the department's successful achievement of the Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Re-Accreditation in 2016.

Marian serves as one of two department Public Information Officers and is a member of the SPD Honor Guard Team.

After her promotion to sergeant, Marian was transferred to the Patrol Division and supervised the midnight shift. She quickly earned their respect through her leadership abilities while providing support and guidance. Marian volunteered to return to CIU as the unit supervisor. Her work ethic and commitment to the Town, her peers and residents is only matched by the love for her family. Marian's most significant accomplishment of 2016 is that her peers selected her as the Officer of the Year.



(L-R) Chief David Allen, Officer and Civilian of the Year Sgt. Marian Cruz and Dina Goldstein, Captain Julio Yero, Lt. John Bambis.

As the only full time administrative person in the Police Department, Dina Goldstein, Executive Assistant to the Chief, successfully manages the many administrative functions that are required. Her job responsibilities are numerous and critical to the overall operation of the Department. Dina has developed and implemented many programs that enhance public safety and provide a safer environment for Surfside. Dina manages many of our most successful and high visibility annual events and programs. Her work ethic, dedication, and commitment to the Town, her fellow employees, and residents of Surfside are remarkable. Congratulations on your selection as 2016 Civilian of the Year.

IN MEMORIAM

Former Surfside Police Chief Terrill Williamson

Terrill Williamson, a 36-year employee of the Surfside Police Department and Chief for 18 years, passed away on February 1, 2017. He became a police officer for Surfside in 1962 and earned his bachelor's degree in 1977 at Biscayne College. He worked his way through the ranks of the Department and was named acting Chief in 1980 and Chief in 1982. He retired in 1998.

He was a devoted husband of 56 years to his wife, Trudy and father to four children and four grandchildren. He will be remembered for his easy laugh, giving helpful advice and always willing to lend a hand to others.



At the 1998 retirement party for Chief Williamson held at the Surf Club are (L-R) Officer Ian Leonard, Chief Williamson and Parking Officer William Perez.