



Coral Gables JUSTICE ADVOCATE PROGRAM



The Justice Advocate Program is a collaborative effort between the City of Coral Gables City Attorney's Office, the Coral Gables Police Department (CGPD) and the Miami-Dade State Attorney's Office. The program's goal is to identify those defendants who repeatedly commit crimes and victimize the Coral Gables community and to ensure vigorous prosecution. The Program is facilitated by The Reyes Law Firm, P.A., Police Legal Advisors, Coral Gables Police Department.

The Program was initiated to insure that those individuals who repeatedly victimize the Coral Gables community are tracked through the system and to insure Coral Gables has an opportunity to be heard at all significant stages of the criminal proceedings through its legal representatives.

Goal

- The **goal** of the Justice Advocate Program is to **reduce repeat victimization of the citizens of Coral Gables** by offenders who commit certain target crimes (Burglary, Robbery, Vehicle-based crime) within the City of Coral Gables and are highly likely to target Coral Gables again upon their eventual release. Additionally, the Justice Advocate(s) **provide legal representation of the City's interest** and the communities interest during the course of the various criminal proceedings.
- The initiative is **designed to ensure that criminals, once arrested are subjected to the maximum effect of the criminal justice system.** This includes: Stay Away Order's for nuisance criminals and seeking increased bond amounts for criminals that present significant risk of public harm if released, ensuring plea deals are in the best interest of the public in general and Coral Gables citizens in particular, and that maximum sentences are sought, obtained and served.
- The Justice Advocate Program has been **active** for approximately **2 years and 3 months.**



BASALO, LUIS ALBERTO

F-15-23635



Armed Carjacking (PBL)
Att. Premeditated Murder (2 Counts)
- **Defendant in Custody.**

Defendant in highly publicized October shooting.
- Case was direct filed in Adult Court.

JA and Investigating Officers met with Assigned ASA at outset to offer any and all assistance.
JA has been in repeated contact with Assigned Trial Prosecutor.

- Defendant sought to have bond set – Request was Denied.
- Set for Trial 10-4-16.



Wilcher, Wooten & Brown F-14-25635-A,B & C



Burglary

Grand Theft 3D

Crim Misc +1000

- Alias Capias Issued – Failure to Appear for Trial for Wooten and Brown

Defendants arrested for a publicized incident regarding a series of burglaries followed by a traffic accident which left someone seriously injured. Despite the best efforts of the JA in conjunction with CGPD and the SAO, two of the cases were dismissed (Victim Refused to Cooperate / Insufficient Evidence of ID).

- JA has been in frequent contact with SAO concerning this matter.
- The JA, City Attorney Leen and Mayor Cason attended an initial hearing in this matter on 3/16/15 and expressed the City's interest in the three related matters.

Trial for Wilcher Set for : 09-12-16

JA has been in contact with assigned ASA and Division Chief re: plea negotiations.



Gill, Adam
F-16-14697



False Impersonation of Officer, Battery, Indecent Exposure, Strong-arm Robbery

-JA has provided Initiation Form to SAO for inclusion in file.

-JA has offered any help possible to assist in prosecution. ASA indicated that CG will be appraised on status of case as things progress.

- Set for Trial 10/11/16

<http://www.nbcmiami.com/news/local/Man-Arrested-For-Allegedly-Impersonating-Cop-Indecent-Exposure-in-Coral-Gables-386834321.html>



Gibson & Andrews

F-15-2493 A&B



Burglary, Theft, Crim. Misc.

- Co-Defendants

-JA has provided Initiation Form to SAO for inclusion in file.

-JA has been in repeated contact with various assigned ASA's.

-JA has offered any help possible to assist in prosecution. ASA indicated no assistance was required and that case was under control.

- Set for Trial 10/24/16



Redero, Juan Carlos

F-15-8548



Leaving Scene of Accident involving Death

Tampering with Evidence

- Out-of-Custody

- The JA worked extensively with CGPD in drafting search warrants and an arrest warrant for the Defendant in this case mere hours and days following the incident, which led to the Defendant's eventual arrest and ongoing prosecution.
- The JA has been in contact with the SAO to insure any and all needs for the trial are met and to express the City's concern regarding this individual.
- Set for Trial 11/14/16



Rodriguez, Jeffrey Paulino

F-14-008446



In-Custody

- Defendant charged with Aggravated Assault with a Deadly Weapon and Aggravated Battery (Stabbing at Havana Harry's)
- JA is in contact with SAO concerning this matter.
- Next hearing is 3-24-16 report re: plea.
- JA & Victim Approved Plea – **5 years State Prison followed by 10 years Probation** (closed with another case).



Wooten, Freddie

F-15-24861-B



In-Custody

- Brother of fugitive Kristopher Wooten
- Defendant charged with Burglary, RWOV, Crim Misc., Grand Theft
- Sentenced: **1 year State Prison with Restitution of \$1,000**

Benefits of Program

- As the above examples illustrate to varying degrees, the Justice Advocate Program offers a vast array of benefits to the City of Coral Gables as a stakeholder in the criminal process. Among the benefits which have already been realized are the following;
 - the ability to attend the first appearance bond hearing to argue for increased bond when appropriate;
 - the facilitation of communication between the SAO and CGPD;
 - the provision of legal research and an increased analytical ability to the SAO for Coral Gables cases when new or novel issues arise;
 - the obtaining of Court Order Stay Away Orders from Coral Gables for offenders;
 - attending the deposition of officers when a member of the SAO is unavailable; and
 - advocating for more severe plea offers or sentences.



Important Note Concerning Community Involvement



- **The City cannot be 100% effective on its own.** Through the Justice Advocate Program, we have been able to identify numerous instances in which subjects have been apprehended, often caught red-handed, and **prosecutions are derailed by residents in the community who refuse to cooperate.** This has the decidedly undesirable effect of encouraging the commission of crime in Coral Gables. Criminals are emboldened by the knowledge that they can commit crimes against the citizenry and they will often not face any consequences because the public refuses to cooperate.
- **The Reyes Law Firm, P.A.** has also agreed to make its conference rooms available for depositions of Coral Gables residents in order to alleviate them of the burden of leaving the City and to ensure that an RLF attorney will attend the deposition if the assigned Assistant State Attorney cannot attend.