

## **2018 Nomination for the Robert DeKorte Memorial Award – Jose Baez**

I would like to nominate Brother Jose Baez for the most prestigious award given to a member of the Coral Gables Fraternal Order of Police Walter F, Stathers Memorial Lodge No. 7, the DeKorte Award. Brother Baez embodies everything that the DeKorte Award stands for: courage, honor and brotherhood. Brother Baez has been a member in good standing of the Coral Gables Fraternal Order of Police and Coral Gables Police Department since September 8, 1992. Brother Baez has served on the Executive Board of our Lodge at different times throughout his career demonstrating his commitment to the Brothers and Sisters of our Lodge. Brother Baez has always shown the way for our membership and has been a steadfast leader for our organization.

Jose has had a stellar career as a Coral Gables Police Officer and distinguished himself in every unit he has served in, including the Motorcycle Unit where he applied his craft with fairness and compassion. He honored us all by participating in dignitary and presidential escorts. Also in the Specialized Investigative Section where he worked undercover details, conducted surveillance and was instrumental in numerous arrests of drug dealers and money laundering offenders. Jose chose to pursue another demanding challenge as a K-9 Officer and as the K-9 Sergeant. Again serving in this capacity with distinction and making several apprehensions with his K-9 partner. Jose was rightfully honored in 2012 as the Coral Gables Police Officer of the year for his heroic and outstanding accomplishments throughout that year. Jose has served the City of Coral Gables with honor and made us all extremely proud.

Brother Baez has served on the Executive Board as Treasurer during two different administrations and demonstrated his commitment to this organization. Brother Baez has taken on a mentorship role with many of our younger members and has taught them the importance of our Lodge. He has helped disseminate important information, represented members of our Lodge and encouraged members to get involved in our organization. Brother Baez has also been a very vital asset to me during my time as President of our Lodge and his encouragement and counsel were invaluable. Jose has been and continues to be the epitome of what a member of the Coral Gable Fraternal Order of Police should be.

I feel great pride and I am honored to make this truly deserving nomination of Brother Jose Baez for the Robert DeKorte Award.

Fraternally,

John Baublitz