

C I T Y O F C O R A L G A B L E S

- M E M O R A N D U M -

TO: MAJOR EDWARD HUDA, JR. DATE: NOVEMBER 17, 2009  
ASC CHAIRPERSON

FROM: SERGEANT CUONG "TED" NGUYEN SUBJECT:  
UNIFORM PATROL DIVISION *11/8/09* NOVEMBER OFFICER OF THE  
MONTH AWARD NOMINATION

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I am nominating Officer Dean Wellinghoff for the November Officer of the Month Award for his outstanding self-initiated activity relating to a Robbery investigated under case number 09-009039.

On November 10, 2009, the Coral Gables Police Department received a call from a victim informing that they were accosted by three subjects armed with a gun in the area of the Ponce De Leon Blvd and Stanford Dr. The subjects robbed the victims of their personal property including wallets, money, I-Phone and other miscellaneous items. BOLO descriptions of the subjects were broadcasted over the police radio.

Officer Wellinghoff was one of the officers to arrive on the scene and attempted to establish a perimeter to contain the subject inside the University of Miami Campus. The subjects were allegedly reported seen running through the Bank United Center (BUC) parking lot. Officer Wellinghoff was positioned on the east side of the BUC near the "Field House" and recalled observing a black male running at a fast pace through the breezeway between the "Field House" and the BUC which is consistent with the direction that the three robbery offenders were last seen fleeing.

Once the perimeter was established, an attempt to seek for the offenders was attempted which yielded negative results. It was determined that the offenders may have escaped from the area thus the Charlie Shift Commander secured the scene. Officer Wellinghoff was convinced and determined that the offenders remained in the nearby vicinity.

An hour later after the perimeter was secured, Officer Wellinghoff continued with his daily routine patrol in the area of US 1 and Stanford Drive. While patrolling the area of the 1000 Block of South Dixie Highway (US1) corridor , Officer Wellinghoff noticed three subjects walking north bound on US1 and approaching Marius St and Homestead Av. The three subjects appeared to match the description of the three BOLO'd robbery offenders.

Officer Wellinghoff stopped the three subjects and noticed that one of the subjects was carrying a backpack which was one of the items that one of the robbery offenders was in possession of when they fled the incident area. During the interaction with the three subjects, Officer Wellinghoff searched the backpack and discovered a steel color type gun inside the bag (which was later determined to be a BB gun) and other personal property that was stolen from the victims.

The three offenders were placed under arrest and interviewed by Detective Robert Wentzell. The three offenders admitted to committing the robbery and stealing the victims' property.

Officer Wellinghoff's persistence and hard work ethic is immeasurable as a police officer and his penchant for seeking out to arrest the perpetrators should be commended. He is well deserving of the 2009 November Officer of the Month award for arresting and removing three robbers from society.

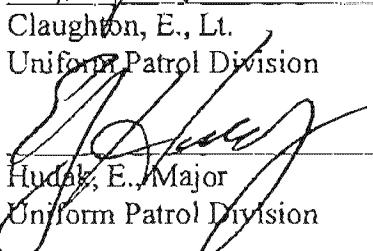
Attached with the nomination are the I/I and Event reports, Supplements, Arrest Affidavit, and BOLO for your review.

REVIEWED BY:

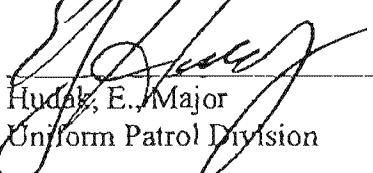
DATE

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Claughton, E., Lt.

11-19-09

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Uniform Patrol Division

11/20/09

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Hudak, E., Major  
Uniform Patrol Division

CN/cn

Cc: Officer Dean Wellinghoff

## CITY OF CORAL GABLES

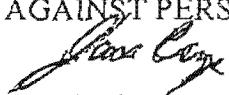
### - MEMORANDUM -

**TO:** MAJOR EDWARD HUDAK  
AWARDS SELECTION COMMITTEE

**FROM:** DET. JANE CAMPOS  
CRIMES AGAINST PERSONS

**DATE:** July 30, 2009

**SUBJECT:**  
JULY OFFICER OF THE  
MONTH AWARD



I respectfully submit this memo to nominate Detective Dean Wellinghoff for the July officer of the month award reference case #09-4333. Below is a synopsis of the investigation:

Detective Wellinghoff was assigned the above listed armed robbery case that occurred on May 30, 2009 at the Subways restaurant located at 1552 South Dixie Highway. The subject in the case entered the store, placed an order and stated "look what I have here" as he raised his shirt displaying a black handgun tucked in his waistband. The subject then demanded money from the employee and threatened to shoot a customer if the employee did not cooperate. The employee feared for his life and ran into a back room, at which time, the offender fled the scene. The store manager was outside at the time and observed the offender fleeing the scene in a newer model four door Ford Fusion black in color. The only other evidence Detective Wellinghoff had was a video with an **unknown** subject. Detective Wellinghoff immediately put together a B.O.L.O. with a still shot of the subject from the surveillance video and a full description of the offender & vehicle. He distributed the B.O.L.O. to the Robbery Clearinghouse and the Florida Intelligence Unit. Several weeks went by and despite Detective Wellinghoff's efforts he received no leads. By this time, an additional ten similar type robberies had been committed throughout Dade and Broward county by an offender fitting the same description and modus operandi.

Determined to stop the offender, Detective Wellinghoff took it upon himself to contact the Monroe County Sheriff's Office as well as the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office and requested that they review their cases to see if they had any similar robberies committed by an individual matching the description of his offender. He personally dealt with the Palm Beach Criminal Intelligence Analyst whose search revealed an individual that fit the description of Detective Wellinghoff's offender. An individual by the name of Frankie Domingo Medrano who was arrested in 2005 for robbing Subways sandwich shops in Palm Beach County and was recently released from prison in October 2008.

With this information in hand Detective Wellinghoff conducted a record's check of Mr. Medrano's Florida Driver's license through the Miami Dade County traffic infraction database. He discovered that Mr. Medrano had received a citation back in May 06, 2009 while driving a vehicle bearing a Florida license plate of M262MY. He then conducted a check of the tag which came back to a 2007 Ford four door, black in color, registered to Ann Sanchez at 1455 Lake

Crystal Drive in West Palm Beach, Florida. Detective Wellinghoff conducted an additional check of the VIN number through NICB (national insurance crime bureau) which revealed that the vehicle was a Ford Fusion, SE model. The West Palm Beach address registered to the vehicle was the same as the one that appeared on Mr. Medrano's Florida driver's license.

Several photos were compiled to create a photographic line up which was shown to the victim by Detective Wellinghoff. The victim positively identified Mr. Medrano from the photographic line-up as the individual that committed the robbery in Coral Gables.

Now that Detective Wellinghoff had established probable cause he immediately began to develop leads for Medrano's whereabouts. Detective Wellinghoff contacted FDLE SA Pete Chong-Yen and requested investigative assistance. SA Pete Chong-Yen's investigation revealed that Mr. Medrano was employed by China Grill during the first quarter of 2009. China Grill's Corporate Office was contacted by Detective Wellinghoff and he was advised that Mr. Medrano had been terminated in June of 2009, for failure to appear for work. However, one piece of critical information was obtained from his employment records and application, a cell phone number Mr. Medrano listed as a point of contact. A check of the cell phone number listed Mr. Medrano as the subscriber.

Detective Wellinghoff was able to obtain a court order through the State Attorney's Office for cell site information for Mr. Medrano's cellular phone on the date of the robbery. As a result of the court order, AT & T was able to reveal that Mr. Medrano's cell phone was used during the time of the robbery. Cell site information also indicated that the phone was used in the area of 1570 Madruga Street which is within very close proximity to the subways restaurant. Detective Wellinghoff then obtained a Federal Court Order for cell site tracking of Mr. Medrano's cellular phone.

Cell phone call history data on the date of the robbery was received from AT&T and reviewed. Detective Wellinghoff used his investigative skills and zeroed in on one specific number. Mr. Medrano had called that specific number on several occasions' specifically one lengthy call that was made on the date of the robbery. The phone number checked back to a condominium located at 9715 Fontainbleau Blvd. As a result of his findings Detective Wellinghoff immediately coordinated surveillance at that location with multiple agencies which included the following: H.I.D.T.A. (operation S.T.O.P.), M.D.P.D. R.I.D., F.D.L.E., A.T.F, M.D.P.D. Robbery Unit, N.M.P.D., and C.G.P.D. C.I.D. As soon as the first detective drove through the parking lot of the complex, the 2007 four door black Ford Fusion bearing Florida tag M262MY was located. Sgt. David Lemon with C.G.P.D. and FDLE SA Jeff Portz both assisted in tracking Mr. Medrano's Cellular phone. On July 25, 2009 they received a signal in the area of Flagler Street and S.W. 87<sup>th</sup> Avenue. The units immediately saturated the area and Mr. Medrano was taken into custody without incident at 8341 West Flagler Street. Mr. Medrano gave a full confession to his involvement in the robberies and provided the location of two firearms (a 9mm and a replica firearm) and over \$500 in proceeds from the robberies.

If it wasn't for Detective Wellinghoff's tenacity and determination throughout this investigation, we would not have identified Mr. Medrano as the individual responsible for the serial robberies. It is not often that we encounter a criminal that has managed to elude the police and continue

victimizing and preying on citizens. Detective Wellinghoff's persistence paid off and resulted in solving a total of seventeen armed robberies that were committed throughout Dade and Broward County. Mr. Medrano will be prosecuted through the Federal Court system; he will be off our streets and locked away for most of his remaining years.

The department and the Award Selection Committee should recognize and feel proud that they have an individual like Detective Wellinghoff that has served for over eighteen years and still has the drive and perseverance to work his investigations with such diligence and vigor.

REVIEWED BY:

  
Sgt. Daniel Mosquera  
Crimes Against Persons Unit

Date

07/30/09

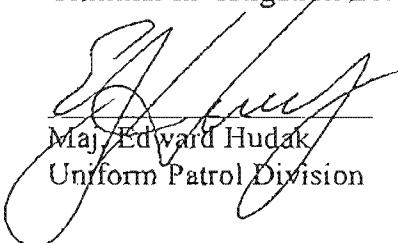
Lt. Brian Lawrence  
Lt. Brian Lawrence  
Criminal Inv. Division

07/30/09

OUT OF OFFICE

Maj. Mark Ginn  
Criminal Investigation Division

07/30/09

  
Maj. Edward Hudak  
Uniform Patrol Division

7/30/09