

# **CITY OF CORAL GABLES**

## **- MEMORANDUM -**

**TO: MAJOR SCOTT MASINGTON**  
**AWARDS SELECTION COMMITTEE CHAIR**  
**VIA CHAIN OF COMMAND**

**DATE: NOVEMBER 27, 2007**

**FROM: PATRICIA A. RODRIGUEZ**  
**COMMUNITY AFFAIRS ASSISTANT**

**SUBJECT:**  
**LEO AWARD NOMINATION –**  
**CRIME PREVENTION /**  
**COMMUNITY POLICING**  
**CATEGORY 2**

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Officer Frank Jackson was assigned to the Coral Gables Police Department Community Affairs / Media Relations Section as the Crime Prevention Officer in August of 2006. It is apparent that in the relatively short period of time he has been with the unit, his initiative, genuine concern for the safety of not only the residents in the City of Coral Gables but the entire South Florida Community, and the ability to identify the need for, and development of, prevention programs is unsurpassed. As such, it is with great pride that I nominate Officer Frank Jackson for the 2007 LEO Crime Prevention / Community Policing Category 2 Award.

As a certified State of Florida Crime Prevention Practitioner, Officer Jackson represents the Department at various neighborhood and business crime watch / crime prevention presentations, providing information to residents and business owners in an effort to reduce their risk of becoming a victim.

In December 2006, Officer Jackson met with representatives of WSVN Channel 7, to discuss the possibility of creating a weekly crime prevention segment that would air during their news broadcast. WSVN agreed, and the "Don't Be a Victim" segment was created. Topics such as identity theft, personal safety, home security, police impersonators, etc., and ways available to the general population to protect themselves from becoming a victim of crime have been covered. WSVN has received extremely positive feedback from their viewing audience via their website, and is pleased to continue this relationship with the Coral Gables Police Department. The information provided to their audience is not solely for the residents of the City of Coral Gables, but benefits all of the South Florida community.

In September of 2007, Officer Jackson met with representatives of WPLG, Channel 10, and a program similar to the WSVN "Don't Be a Victim" segment was created. Although the main focus of this segment remains crime prevention, the twist is what programs all local law enforcement agencies have in place that benefit the entire South Florida community, such a youth programs geared at prevention, personal and residential safety, etc.

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Although not on the same level, Officer Jackson has been instrumental in setting up several interviews with WFOR, Channel 4 regarding personal safety, and has identified the need to reach out to the Spanish speaking networks to provide the same type of program to their viewers. Interviews/programs are currently being developed with Univision, Channel 23.

In August of 2007, as a result of the escalation in the occurrences of bank robberies in the City of Coral Gables and Miami-Dade County involving possibly the same subjects, Officer Jackson researched the information necessary to create a bank robbery prevention program. Once the research was complete, Officer Jackson reached out to the banking community in our City, and created a bank robbery prevention program. To date, five Robbery Prevention Programs for Bank Employees have been held at various banks in our City, and two introductory programs have been presented.

Some other fine examples of Officer Jackson's community involvement are as follows:

In early 2007, Officer Jackson met with the Deering Bay Homeowners Association and property management company with regards to developing and/or revising their Hurricane Preparedness Plan, and the presentation of a safety awareness meeting. With the assistance of the Coral Gables Fire Rescue Public Information Officer, a hurricane preparedness and general safety awareness meeting was scheduled. This meeting was well received by the residents of Deering Bay, and allowed for the formation of a more "personal" relationship with the residents of this area and the Coral Gables Police Department.

As a result of one of the segments on WSVN, Channel 7, Officer Jackson was contacted by a local Girl Scout Troop requesting a personal safety presentation. With the consent of the parents, WPLG, Channel 10, covered this presentation. The segment aired, which resulted in several additional calls from other Girl Scout and Brownie troops requesting the same presentation.

On a personal note, Officer Jackson was asked to become a Board member for The Samantha Foundation. In 2001 2-year old Samantha Jane Kessler lost her life in a home accident. Her parents, devastated by the loss, created the Samantha Foundation - a not for profit organization that educates parents and caregivers about the hidden dangers in the home. As a father of two small children, Officer Jackson was honored to be asked to be a member of such a worthy organization, and has offered to assist, on his off-duty time with this worthwhile cause.

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**REVIEWED BY:**

**DATE:**

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Sgt. Javier Bruzos  
Community Affairs Supervisor

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Major Scott Masington  
Awards Selection Committee Chairperson

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