

CITY OF CORAL GABLES

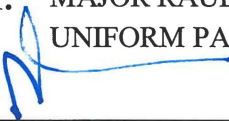
- MEMORANDUM -

TO: ASST. CHIEF MICHAEL C. MILLER
AWARDS SELECTION COMMITTEE

DATE: AUGUST 3, 2016

FROM: MAJOR RAUL PEDROSO
UNIFORM PATROL DIVISION

SUBJECT:
OFFICER OF THE MONTH
NOMINATION



6856

I respectfully nominate Lieutenant David Lemon for the Distinguished Officer of the Month Award for July 2016. Lieutenant Lemon is assigned to the Uniform Patrol Division and manages the Neighborhood Team Policing Unit, the Crisis Management Team and handles many other responsibilities including Facility Security. During the month of July he performed exceptionally balancing many different, wide ranging responsibilities and issues, while exhibiting positive leadership in what was a very challenging month. He managed critical events and operations, while planning and organizing internal projects and needs, in response to the tragic incidents happening around our nation, and continued to supervise the various units and personnel normally reporting to him.

As the Crisis Management Commander, Lieutenant Lemon manages the SWAT Team and the Crisis Negotiations Team. The evening of July 7th, following the tragic events in Dallas, Texas that resulted in five police officers being killed by a sniper, Lieutenant Lemon contacted me conveying his concerns about safety for our officers and our community. He shared recommendations regarding tactical considerations for our agency. As the events unfolded and the details of the incident were learned, he studied what had transpired in Dallas and evaluated our capabilities and needs as a police department. He began soliciting quotes for equipment that would keep our officers safer, and communicated with SWAT personnel in our agency and at neighboring departments to increase awareness and to plan as to how we would manage a similar incident if something similar was to happen locally. At the direction of the Chief of Police, he quickly organized all SWAT personnel including himself to provide 24/7 coverage by way of two-officer tactical teams working in the City, a special detail he termed Operation Overwatch that remains in effect as of this writing.

The afternoon following the incident in Dallas, our department was notified of a possible active shooter and threat of explosives at nearby Nicklaus Children's Hospital. Lieutenant Lemon upon hearing the advisory immediately contacted me and advised me what was transpiring and recommended we respond and assist based on the nature of the call and its proximity to our City. As a result, we immediately had personnel respond to assist the Miami-Dade Police Department who was already engaged searching for the reported active shooter at the hospital. Lieutenant Lemon responded to the command post and began coordinating with the Miami-Dade Police Tactical Commanders. He directed Coral Gables Police personnel who took perimeter posts and helped evacuate the hospital, while protecting people in and around the facility, as we joined the

search for the reported shooter. Fortunately, it was eventually determined to be a false report. At the scene, I had a close vantage point from which I watched Lieutenant Lemon manage our response, as he professionally represented our agency, communicating with personnel from various departments and ensuring we assisted in every way possible. It was clear that Lieutenant Lemon had good working relationships with the various SWAT Leaders from other agencies and he was skilled in working in what was an intense and very involved command post. From the onset, Lieutenant Lemon recognized the danger involved, made the call to have our department assist, and led our efforts to safeguard the patients, their families, and hospital staff

During this same month, Lieutenant Lemon served as the Acting Major of the Uniform Patrol Division for several days, responsible for all patrol operations and special units in the division. He fulfilled the role, demonstrating responsible leadership while executing the duties of the Office professionally. He reported to the Chief of Police and effectively collaborated with commanders of the other divisions. He took the opportunity to further engage personnel and help keep others motivated while focused and working safely.

Additionally in July, he was selected by the Chief of Police to represent his Office and oversee the complete, complex audit of the Department's Property and Evidence Room, which contains thousands of items of evidence and seized articles, including jewelry, currency, firearms, and narcotics.

The month of July proved to be challenging to all of us in law enforcement and we should be proud of all of our men and women in the agency for responding in the upmost professional manner, however, the leadership and command provided by Lieutenant Lemon throughout all events and assignments was demonstrative of what we look for in our leaders and he performed in a way that we should all strive to in service. Lieutenant Lemon is a skilled law enforcement manager who recognizes the responsibility, authority and accountability of his position, which he clearly displayed throughout the month.

It is because of all of his actions, attitude and engagement that I proudly nominate Lieutenant David Lemon for this prestigious award.

Reviewed by:

Date:



Major R. Pestaro
Acting Chair
for Chief Miller.

8/8/2016