

CITY OF CORAL GABLES

- MEMORANDUM -

TO: MAJOR JESSE MEDINA
(AWARDS SELECTION COMMITTEE)

DATE: AUGUST 21, 2019

FROM: LIEUTENANT VICKY MERINO 
UPD COMMANDER

SUBJECT:
AWARDS/OFFICER OF THE
MONTH FOR AUGUST

I would like to nominate Sergeant Lauren Eich for the "Officer of the Month" award. On August 19, 2019, Sergeant Eich was conducting a zone blitz; which is essentially a directed patrol in a specific zone for a designated amount of time. During the zone blitz, Sergeant Eich observed two subjects walking eastbound on Carmona Court. Both subjects were wearing hooded sweatshirts, with the hoods covering their hair. Sergeant Eich found this suspicious since the weather was warm and humid.

Sergeant Eich activated her emergency overhead lights and attempted contact with the subjects. Both males continued to walk eastbound ignoring her emergency lights. Sergeant Eich gave them loud verbal commands to stop. Sergeant Eich noticed the subjects were young and inquired their age. Both subjects confirmed they were both minors violating curfew hours. One of the defendants spontaneously stated they were going to visit some girls and left their bikes parked by a dead end street. Neither one of the juveniles had any identification on them.

Both defendants were read their Miranda rights per card and agreed to answer questions. According to both subjects, they came from Allapatah to visit some girls who live in the area. Neither subject was able to provide the girls address or any proof they had been communicating with them. A consent to search was conducted and revealed a suspicious clear baggy with a green leafy substance which appeared to be marijuana. Based on their suspicious behavior, along with their inability to dispel her alarm, both subjects were arrested and charged with loitering and prowling.

Further information revealed one of the subjects is an active member of a gang which is responsible for targeting Coral Gables and committing vehicle burglaries. There is no doubt that Sergeant Eich's keen observation and proactive approach to conducting the zone blitz led to the apprehension of these subjects who were most likely going to target our residents. Sergeant Eich continues to lead her squad by example and constantly participates in their assigned details. She remains a proactive officer despite being a supervisor.

Vm/vm

Maj. Cordell Atherley # 7000
Cordell Atherley, Major
Uniform Patrol Division

8/26/19
Date

Jesse Medina # 7626
Jesse Medina, Major
ASC Chairperson

8-26-19
Date

VM/vm