



City of Coral Gables
CITY COMMISSION MEETING
April 12, 2022

ITEM TITLE:

Congratulations to Mitchell C. Zuriarrain who holds the title of Administrative Operations Supervisor, recipient of the "Employee of the Month Award," for the month of February 2022.

BRIEF HISTORY:

The nomination was submitted by Carolina Vester, Community Recreation Assistant Director, who stated the following:

“In the 12 years since Mitchell Zuriarrain started his career with the City of Coral Gables, he has demonstrated great initiative to grow and provide better services to our residents and participants. He started his career as a part-time GSR at the Venetian Pool, transitioned to Special Events and quickly moved into administration where he initially served as the Administrative Assistant. What made him stand out in this position is that he took his role to new heights by establishing himself as a liaison for the department to the Capital Improvement office. His approach of continually taking on new responsibilities to improve park projects within the department earned him a promotion to the newly developed position as Administrative Operations Supervisor. In his new leadership role, Mitch took on supervising multiple administrative functions within the department but his greatest asset to the city was that of supervising the rapidly growing capital projects within the department. To expedite renovation projects and to reduce expenditures to allow for higher quality parks and services within a limited budget, Mitch took on an innovative approach in municipal government; that of owner builder. This allowed the department to save on the additional costs of architectural and general contractor fees and work directly with the manufacturer and their installers to renovate playgrounds such as Jaycee Park and the north side of Salvadore Park. Utilizing a piggyback contract, the City was able to purchase and install the equipment at a reduced rate and save on taxes and substantially cut the renovation schedule down by several months since the entire process was handled internally through Mitch, who acted as the Project Manager for these projects. His approach is truly innovative and has saved the City substantial amounts of money and time to further stretch the budget to provide our residents with higher quality products. What is important to note is that during this transition in his career, Mitch decided to not just grow professionally within the City but also personally within the profession, by balancing a full school schedule at FIU in order to complete his Bachelor Degree and then move on to pursue his Masters Degree. Mitch’s discipline and ability as both a leader and teammate demonstrate why he is more than deserving of a recognition from the City of Coral Gables and should be considered for the nomination and award of employee of the month.”

ATTACHMENT(S):

1. Employee of the Month Notification Letter