

CITY OF CORAL GABLES

- MEMORANDUM -

TO: ~~ASSISTANT CHIEF M. MILLER~~ **A/MAJOR LAWRENCE RP**
AWARDS SELECTION COMMITTEE

DATE: April 30, 2017

FROM: LT. CORDELL ATHERLEY I.D. 7000
UNIFORM PATROL DIVISION **G**

SUBJECT:
AWARD NOMINATIONS

Based on the below listed incident, I respectfully request to nominate the listed CGPD personnel for the following awards:

Officer of the Month: Officer James Molina

Communications Operator of the Quarter: Sureya Serret

Section/Squad/Unit Certificate: Sgt. R. Jenkins, E. Flores, A. Jorva, J. Coleman, J. Molina, D. Sotolongo, S. Gordillo, O. Mateu, J. Cloud, S. Simons, M. Rivero, N. Chavez, and I. Cabrera.

On Saturday April 8, 2017 at approximately 12:55hrs, while on a foot patrol assignment at the (VMP) Village of Merrick Park, Officer Gordillo was notified by (VMP) security of an active shooter inside the Equinox Gym located at 370 San Lorenzo Ave, Suite 200.

Utilizing his CGPD police radio, Officer Gordillo immediately called for emergency back-up. As the first police units arrived, an entry team comprising of Officer J. Molina a SWAT Operator, Officer Challenger, Officer M. Rivero and Officer Rios made an immediate entry at approximately 1258hrs into the Equinox gym in an effort to stop the active shooter. During the sweep of the immediate area for possible subjects, the entry team located Victim #1 and Victim #2 laying on the floor behind the front service counter. Both victims were suffering from apparent gunshot wounds. In an effort to make the scene safe, the entry team continued on their search of the gym for the active shooter subject(s). Upon entering the men's locker room, near the shower area, the entry team located the active shooter, the subject, laying on the floor with a handgun a few feet away from him. After careful observation of the subject, it was apparent that he was deceased as a result of a self-inflicted gunshot wound to the head.

At approximately 13:02hrs, a second team of officers consisting of Lt. Atherley, Officers Sotolongo, J.J. Rodriguez, A. Jorva, M. Valdes, J. Coleman, and S. Gordillo made entry into the Equinox gym, and assisted with rendering medical assistance. Once the scene was secured, Coral Gables Rescue 4 (Lt. Garcia) transported the victims to Landing Zone 3 (350 Bird Rd., Coral Gables High School football field). The victims were transported via Air Rescue north to Jackson's Ryder Trauma Center. These officers also facilitated the evacuation of innocent bystanders.

At approximately 13:07 hrs, Lt. Atherley established a command post on San Lorenzo Ave between Aurora St and Laguna St. (Center of the Mall). Present at the command post was Director Fernandez, Chief Hudak, Assistant Chief Miller, Major Pedrosa, Lt. Atherley, City of

Miami Police Department supervisors and representatives from the Village of Merrick Park's Management Group. From the command post, evacuation of the mall was organized with the assistance of the City of Miami Police Department. Assistance was also provided to the Miami Dade Police Department's Homicide section, who was the lead agency for the homicide investigation. Additionally, from the command post, resources such as bomb dogs and Miami Dade's bomb unit were also requested to investigate the subject's car, which was found on the second floor of the (VMP's) parking garage.

At the conclusion of the Equinox gym crime scene investigation and the investigation of the subject's vehicle by the Miami Dade Police Department, all CGPD Units secured the perimeter at approximately 2200hrs.

Note:

Victim #1 pronounced deceased upon arrival at JMH on Saturday 4/8/17.

Victim #2 pronounced deceased at JMH on Sunday 4/9/17,

The Subject pronounced deceased on scene (Equinox Gym) on Saturday 4/8/17.

Officer of the Month nomination:

Officer J. Molina responded to the scene in an emergency mode. Upon arrival, he quickly took command and control of the scene. Being a team leader on the SWAT Team, Officer Molina was able to take tactical command of a squad of officers and made an immediate entry into a hostile environment. It is because of his training, expertise and command presence that Officer Molina was able to prevent any additional critical incidents from occurring. A rapid entry and securing the active shooter scene was accomplished as a result of Officer Molina's bravery. With the utmost gratitude, I respectfully nominate Officer J. Molina for *the Officer of the Month Award*.

Communications Operator of the Quarter:

Operator Serret took command and control of the police radio and facilitated all assistance and resources that police and fire personnel requested. It is because of her balanced approach to dispatching that professional and disciplined radio procedures were adhered to. With the adrenaline flowing, and the active shooter scene being dynamic, Operator Serret was able to manage all communications during a very intense active shooter scene. It is with the utmost gratitude that I nominate Communications Operator Serret for the distinguished award of *Communications Operator of the Quarter*.

Reviewed by:



Major Raul Pedroso
UPD Commander

Date

5/5/17

Brian Jambre 6820
ASC CHAIRPERSON

05/09/17