

**CITY OF CORAL GABLES**

**- MEMORANDUM -**

**TO:** MAJOR EDWARD HUDAK, JR. **DATE:** SEPTEMBER 27, 2010  
ASC CHAIRPERSON

**FROM:** SERGEANT CUONG "TED" NGUYEN **SUBJECT:**  
UNIFORM PATROL DIVISION *Juc 7063* SEPTEMBER OFFICER OF THE  
MONTH AWARD NOMINATION

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I am nominating Officer Karla Rodriguez for the 2010 September Officer of the Month Award for her self-initiated activity relating to a vehicle burglary investigation case # 10-007173 which resulted in an arrest of a subject.

On September 17, 2010, the Coral Gables Police Department received a call from a reporter/witness informing the Communications Operator that a subject was burglarizing a silver truck. The brief description the witness was able to provide of the subject is as follows; tall white male, stocky build wearing a black cap, large gray shirt and dark shorts. The subject was last seen on foot towards Galiano Street "carrying something in his hands." Police units responded and canvassed the area.

Note: This pick-up was recently burglarized and the subject stole the radio two days prior on September 15, 2010. Since August 1, 2010 to September 17, 2010; there were 9 cases that involved thefts of tires/rims and 3 cases that involved thefts of tail gate/ tail lights. Crime Analyst Keckler confirmed that since the arrest of this defendant there have been no reports of Burglary/Theft to Ford automobile parts.

Officer Karla Rodriguez was one of the officers to arrive on the scene and canvassed the area in an attempt to locate the subject. A perimeter was established. However, Officer Rodriguez stealthily continued to canvass the area in her patrol vehicle and observed a Ford pick-up truck contemporaneously leaving the area of the vehicle burglary incident.

Officer Rodriguez initiated a traffic stop of the suspicious Ford pick-up truck at Douglas Road and SW 8 Street. During her interactions with the driver and the pick up truck, she was able to observe numerous vehicle parts in the bed of the subject's pick up truck; a dark ford tail gate; one tire (with rim/Ford hubcaps detached); and two tail lamps assembly. Officer Rodriguez conducted a search of the interior of the subject's vehicle and discovered in the rear floor board a four way lug wrench (commonly used to removed lug nuts from tires) with a black cap on top of it.

The subject matched the description of the subject that was seen by the witness. A show-up was conducted and he was positively indentified by the witness as the subject that was seen near the victim's silver pick-up truck.

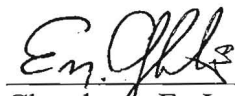
Officer Rodriguez conducted a records check of the subject and it revealed that his past included 3<sup>rd</sup> degree felony murder; multiple burglary charges; grand theft; possession of burglary tools; and chop shop related charges. The subject was arrested.

Officer Rodriguez's deliberate action to instinctively canvass the area resulted in an arrest of the perpetrator should be commended and is well deserving to be selected as the 2010 September Officer of the month award for this arrest.

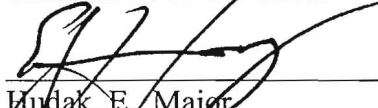
Attached with the nominations are the I/I and Event reports; Arrest Affidavit; and Crime Analyst spread sheet of the reported thefts for your review of the detail accounts of the Burglary Incident.

**REVIEWED BY:**

**DATE**

  
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Claughton, E., Lt.  
Uniform Patrol Division

09-30-10

  
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Hudak, E., Major  
Uniform Patrol Division

9/30/10

CN/cn

Cc: Officer Karla Rodriguez