

CITY OF CORAL GABLES

- MEMORANDUM -

TO: ASSISTANT CHIEF MICHAEL MILLER
(AWARDS SELECTION COMMITTEE)

DATE: MAY 14, 2015

FROM: A/LT. VICKY MERINO 
UNIFORM PATROL DIVISION

SUBJECT:
AWARDS/OFFICER OF THE
MONTH FOR MAY

I would like to take this time to nominate Officer R. Mccalla and Officer A. Jorva for Officer of the Month for May of 2015. Officer Mccalla and Officer Jorva are deserving of this award for the integral role they played involving the arrest of a violent subject. If it wasn't for their keen observation, the subject may not have been apprehended so quickly.

On May 11, 2015, in the early morning hours, a subject attempted to victimize a lawn maintenance crew that was doing work at the 1200 Block of Castile Avenue. The subject attempted to steal lawn equipment from a maintenance truck but was confronted by the female victim before he fled the scene. The victim confronted the subject who was still holding the lawn equipment in his hands. A struggle ensued for the lawn equipment and during the struggle; the subject pushed the victim with both hands. The subject was unsuccessful in his attempt to steal the equipment. The victim and witness were able to obtain the subject's vehicle tag and a detailed description. A BOLO was issued with negative results for the subject at the time. The vehicle and tag provided are described in detail in the incident report (15-3690).

Approximately 30 to 40 minutes later, the same subject victimized another lawn maintenance crew at the 1200 Block of Almeria Avenue. The subject removed several pieces of lawn equipment and fled the scene. An area canvass did not reveal the subject however, due to the fact that we had his vehicle information, SIT officers (Officer Molina/Sgt. Luna) and Officer Engmann set up surveillance at the registered owner's house in hopes that he would return home with the stolen equipment. The subject did not immediately go home but at approximately 1420 hours, the subject driving the same vehicle (black/Nissan Murano) and matching the description previously provided arrived at the location where surveillance was being conducted. He met with another male who appeared to be looking at the stolen equipment.

Officers conducting the surveillance proceeded to take down the subjects. Sgt. Luna attempted to detain the subject (Rogelio Marten) who had now entered his vehicle (Black Nissan Murano). The subject in an attempt to elude the officers placed his car on drive dragging Sgt. Luna who was now holding onto the door of the vehicle. He was dragged for approximately 5 feet where he eventually fell hitting the ground causing scrapes and abrasions. The subject fled the area in his black Nissan Murano. Several units responded to the area to look for the subject who was not located in the immediate area.

Several minutes later, Officer Mccalla was searching for the subject on Lejeune Road when he observed a vehicle matching the description traveling southbound on Lejeune Road. Officer Mccalla was traveling northbound at the time and proceeded to make a u-turn in the direction of the vehicle after observing the driver and obtaining the first two digits of the tag. Officer Mccalla immediately knew it was the subject based on the description provided and the vehicle's tag number. As he turned around, the subject made a left turn heading eastbound on 14 Street. Officer Mccalla was unable to catch up to the vehicle but immediately advised on the radio alerting units who were searching for the subject that he was in the area and his last known location.

Officer Mccalla continued searching the area and minutes later, Officer Jorva located the vehicle on 43 Avenue and SW 16 Street. He followed the vehicle for a short time and then attempted to initiate a traffic stop. The vehicle refused to stop fleeing from Officer Jorva. Officer Jorva continued to pursue the subject who eventually lost control of his vehicle; crashing into two parked cars and disabling his vehicle. Upon crashing his vehicle, the subject took flight on foot and was apprehended after short a struggle with officers. No other injuries were reported.

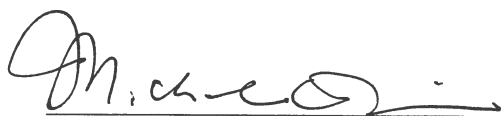
Officer Mccalla and Officer Jorva are deserving of this award because without their immediate response and keen observation, the subject who assaulted one of our officer's, committed a strong armed robbery and committed a theft would not have been apprehended so quickly and without any further injury to our officers and our residents. It is because of their actions and their diligence that the subject was apprehended.



Major Raul Pedroso
UPD Commander

5/20/15

Date



Michael Miller, Assistant Chief
ASC Chairperson

5/21/15

Date