



**City of Coral Gables
CITY COMMISSION MEETING
December 11, 2018**

ITEM TITLE:

Congratulations to Officer Khaled Taha, recipient of the City of Coral Gables "Officer of the Month Award," for the month of October, 2018.

BRIEF HISTORY:

On October 25, 2018, loss prevention officers working at Neiman Marcus, 390 San Lorenzo Av., observed two juvenile suspects enter the fitting rooms each holding two items. The suspects subsequently exited the fitting rooms holding only 1 item in their hands. One suspect had a bulge in his pant leg and the other was wearing sagging jeans that revealed a pair of swim trunks that he had put on under his jeans. After the suspects bypassed all points of sale without attempting to pay for the concealed items, loss prevention officers detained the offenders and called CGPD.

Officer Taha responded to the Neiman Marcus store and took custody of the offenders. He transported them to the Coral Gables Police Department, third floor interview rooms. Officer Taha assisted Detective Grigg with the interview of both suspects. He was especially instrumental in the interview of one of the offenders who did not speak English. Officer Taha was able to establish rapport with the offenders and used interview techniques to elicit confessions from them. While speaking with Officer Taha, one offender admitted to stealing a wallet from the Lacoste store earlier in the week (Case 18-007322). Officer Taha called the offender's mother who responded to the station and turned in the stolen wallet which still had the price tag attached to it. The other offender admitted to stealing a Boss wrist watch a few days prior (18-007277). Detective Grigg called the offender's brother who took the watch to CGPD with the tags still attached. The offenders also provided the names of three other juvenile offenders who may have been involved in the thefts.

Thanks to Officer Taha's work ethic combined with his interview skills, several cases (18-007277, 18-007308 and 18-007322) were closed and property was returned to the victim businesses. For this reason, I believe Officer Taha is deserving of consideration for the Officer of the Month award for October, 2018. *(Nominated by Sergeant G. Antezana)*

ATTACHMENT(S):

1. **Nomination memo**