



**City of Coral Gables
CITY COMMISSION MEETING
January 9, 2018**

ITEM TITLE:

Congratulations to Detective Janesse Soto, recipient of the City of Coral Gables "Detective of the 3rd Quarter Award," for the months of July through September, 2017.

BRIEF HISTORY:

The Village of Pinecrest was experiencing an increase in residential burglaries; as a result, their Police Department initiated a burglary task force. Their burglaries had the same modus operandi (MO) as our burglaries; therefore, they requested the assistance of our detectives. Detective Soto agreed to assist and worked several nights of the operation. Prior to working the detail, Detective So to studied all the Pinecrest residential burglaries and learned that they were all occurring in the evening hours on Thursday through Saturday. Due to her hard work and tenacious attitude, she identified two potential subjects that may be committing these burglaries based on the burglary MO's, the subject's physical description captured on surveillance video and criminal history. She shared her information with the Pinecrest detectives; as a result, they all focused their efforts on looking for those subjects throughout their detail.

On August 11th, during the detail, Detective Soto observed a black Cadillac SUV stopped at an intersection in a residential area of Pinecrest. She found it suspicious due to the vehicle being stopped on a clear and unobstructed residential street. She continued to keep an eye on the vehicle, which began to drive slowly and stopping in front of several residences. She initiated a traffic stop once she clearly observed a traffic violation in order identify the driver and passengers. She was elated once she discovered that two of the subjects in the vehicle were the two subjects she had identified. The third subject in the vehicle was known to her as an associate of one of the known subjects. Unfortunately, she was only able to charge them with Loitering and Prowling (L&P), due to their erratic driving behavior in the residential area and invoking their right to remain silent. Their behavior, which was alarming to her, and not explaining why they were in the area, did not dispel her alarm and created an imminent threat to public safety (CGPD Case 17-005652 & Pinecrest Case 1703064).

The forty-four residential burglaries in the Village of Pinecrest and our eight were higher than usual for the year. We strongly feel that these subjects were directly involved in the burglaries and as a result of this arrest, the number of high end residential burglaries have stopped.

This arrest is an example of excellent police and investigative work. Detective Soto should be recognized for her dedication and professionalism to our residents, department, and city.

ATTACHMENT(S):

- 1. Nomination memo**