

CITY OF CORAL GABLES

- MEMORANDUM -

TO: MAJOR THERESA MOLINA
CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION

DATE: FEBRUARY 3, 2014

FROM: SERGEANT ALAIN CAMPOS
CRIMES AGAINST PERSONS UNIT

SUBJECT
JANUARY 2014 OFFICER OF THE
MONTH NOMINATION

Alain Campos

I am respectfully submitting this memorandum to nominate Detective Velier Zaccheo as a candidate for the January of 2014 Officer of the Month Award. The following is a brief synopsis of the cases investigated and closed via arrest by Detective Zaccheo, which I believe make him deserving of receiving this prestigious award.

Arrests of Voyeurism subject Mariano PAYO

On December 27, 2013, Uniform Patrol Division Officers arrested an individual named Mariano PAYO for Loitering and Prowling and Resisting an officer Without Violence. The arrest and details of that case (13-9640) were distributed to sworn personnel via the Internal Message Report (IMR) email group. Detective Zaccheo immediately recognized the named defendant, as being the same individual he arrested in 2011 for Burglary of an Occupied Structure, Voyeurism and Stalking (11-8509).

The information related via the IMR alerted Detective Zaccheo to the possibility that Mr. PAYO may have engaged in an act of Voyeurism in the residential area where said arrest took place. Detective Zaccheo reviewed the notes from the call for service and discovered that the complainant did in fact advise that Mr. PAYO was looking into a window at the apartment building adjacent to the arrest location. Detective Zaccheo immediately contacted the complainant who directed Detective Zaccheo to the window area where Mr. PAYO was standing and looking. Detective Zaccheo contacted the home owner and discovered that the window in question had a horizontal blind, which was damaged and allowed anyone who may desire to be able to look into the bedroom of the juvenile who resided at that location. Additionally, Detective Zaccheo learned that the juvenile was in fact in his bedroom shirtless during the arrest of Mr. PAYO that evening.

Detective Zaccheo immediately contacted Assistant State Attorney (ASA) Lisa Riddle, the assigned prosecutor for the 2011 arrest, which was pending trial and made her aware of the patrol arrest and what he learned. Detective Zaccheo also informed ASA Riddle that Mr. PAYO was out on bond from the 2011 case while he committed the new incident and Detective Zaccheo also informed ASA Riddle that Mr. PAYO had violated his conditions of probation stemming from a similar arrest for Voyeurism in Virginia. ASA Riddle immediately placed Mr. PAYO's new arrest case on calendar in an attempt to revoke his bond for this arrest.

On January 3, 2014, Mr. PAYO's new case was reviewed in court and his bond was revoked. The Judge remanded Mr. PAYO into custody for three days and then allowed him to be released into monitored house arrest as a direct result of Detective Zaccheo's efforts. Additionally, On January 13, 2014, ASA Riddle filed an amended information with the clerk's office adding the charge of Voyeurism to the patrol arrest.

Detective Zaccheo became concerned that Mr. PAYO may have been responsible for other related cases since his 2011 arrest and release, which may have not been linked to him, due to the manner in which the incidents were documented and or reported. Detective Zaccheo, with the assistance of Crime Analyst John Keckler, queried via RMS, all Loitering and Prowling, Lewd and Lascivious and Indecent Exposure cases reported to the department during reporting years 2011 thru 2013. The report generated several documented complaints. Detective Zaccheo reviewed each said complaint and sought any similar modus operandi and or subject description similar to that of Mr. PAYO. Detective Zaccheo identified three cases (12-6111, 13-3794 and 13-4264) in which the complainants described a suspect matching the description of Mr. PAYO.

On January 2, 2014, Detective Zaccheo and I met with one of the complainants in case 13-3794. The complainant described the incident and recounted the description of the suspect. Detective Zaccheo asked that I present a sequential photo lineup on his behalf to the victim. The victim positively identified Mr. PAYO as the subject that she observed watching her shower via a bathroom window on May 17, 2013. In this case, Mr. PAYO had to pry open an accordion hurricane shutter to gain visual access to the window in the complainant's bathroom.

On January 7, 2014, Detective Zaccheo and Detective Cuervo met with the complainant in case 13-4264, who was currently residing in Fort Myers, Florida. The complainant described the incident and recounted the description of the suspect. Detective Zaccheo asked Detective Cuervo to present a photo lineup on his behalf to the victim. The victim positively identified Mr. PAYO, as the subject that she observed watching her through a bedroom window on June 6, 2013.

On January 8, 2014, Detective Zaccheo requested the assistance of law enforcement officers from the City of Carmel Indiana in contacting the victim (who was now residing in that city) in case 12-6111. The victim was located by investigators and a photo lineup was shown to the complainant. The complainant positively identified Mr. PAYO as the subject that watched her via a door window while she was in the nude inside her apartment on August 8, 2012. Additionally, Detective Zaccheo learned that the victim had also seen the subject return to her apartment the following day and secretly watched her via her kitchen window.

Detective Zaccheo arrested Mr. PAYO and charged him with three counts of Voyeurism and one count of Stalking for the above listed cases.

As a result of Detective Zaccheo's actions, Mr. PAYO'S house arrest status was terminated and he is currently incarcerated and awaiting trial. ASA Riddle praised Detective Zaccheo's excellent work and thanked our agency for our commitment in keeping a potentially dangerous individual out of our community.

Arrest of Armed Robbery subject Kelsey WARE

On January 3, 2014, Detective Zaccheo was tasked with investigating an armed robbery (14-0063) which took place on the roadside of the 100 block of San Lorenzo Avenue. The robbery suspect took the victim's property which included an Apple iPhone. Detective Zaccheo immediately attempted to utilize the iPhone's online "Find My iPhone" application to attempt to locate the cellular telephone. Detective Zaccheo discovered that the application showed a GPS position for the stolen iPhone at a residence just a few blocks east of where the armed robbery occurred. Utilizing investigative databases Detective Zaccheo identified a potential suspect which matched the description of the subject provided by the victim to Detective Zaccheo and our department sketch artist, Detective Cachinero.

On January 6, 2014, Detective Zaccheo asked Detective McKee to present a photo lineup to the victim. The victim positively identified Mr. Kelsey WARE as the subject that committed the armed robbery. On January 9, 2014, Mr. WARE was arrested and charged with one count of Robbery with a Firearm.

Arrest of Court Order Violator Mitchell GELKO

On February 8, 2013, Mr. Mitchell GELKO was served a protection order, which prohibited him from contacting via any means, a listed domestic violence victim residing within the jurisdictional boundaries of our city. Between the dates of June 16, 2013, through January 24, 2014, records showed that Mr. GELKO called the victim telephonically numerous times (see case 13-9561). Detective Zaccheo immediately contacted the State Attorney's Office and made them aware of the investigation, as Mr. GELKO had recently garnered national attention and infamy via a syndicated television program in which he was labeled "The neighbor from hell." Detective Zaccheo coordinated the investigation with the State Attorney's Office and gathered the supporting facts and evidence to establish a probable cause arrest.

On January 27, 2014, Mr. GELKO was taken in custody by Detective Zaccheo and charged with one count of Violation of Domestic Violence Injunction and one count of Stalking.

Arrest of Domestic Battery subject Alfredo MESA

On January 19, 2014, the complainant in case 14-00473, stated that as she was departing her workplace and was about to enter her vehicle, she was accosted by her ex-boyfriend, who grabbed her by the arm and stated "This is for you to see who I am, this is going to kill you, don't call the cops because if you do, they will see drugs in your car." The subject then threw an unknown white powder at the victim which struck her face and entered her mouth.

On January 31, 2014, Detective Zaccheo contacted the subject Mr. MESA, who agreed to voluntarily respond to the Coral Gables Police Department. Mr. MESA waived his rights to legal counsel and Post Miranda admitted to Detective Zaccheo that he did throw a white substance (talcum powder) at the victim in an attempt to "scare her" because he alleged that she was harassing him.


Mr. MESA was charged with one count of Domestic Battery.

Conclusion

Despite being a 17 year veteran law enforcement officer, Detective Zaccheo continues to have the drive and determination of a newly hired officer. He has served this department with distinction and continues to do so today, always driven, self-motivated and willing to assist his fellow investigators.

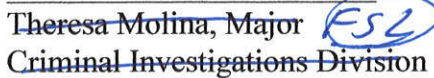
Based on the aforementioned cases and arrests, I believe that Detective Zaccheo is deserving of receiving the Officer of the Month Award for January of 2014. Being honored in this manner will show Detective Zaccheo and other officers with a likewise work ethic, that hard work and perseverance is recognized and appreciated by the members of this agency and the community we serve. Thank you for your time and consideration.


REVIEWED BY:


Jesse Medina, Lieutenant
Criminal Investigation Section

DATE:

2-5-14


Theresa Molina, Major
Criminal Investigations Division

 3/6/14
(Recd)