

CITY OF CORAL GABLES

- MEMORANDUM -

TO: ASSISTANT CHIEF MICHAEL C. MILLEF **DATE:** FEBRUARY 27, 2015
AWARD SELECTION COMMITTEE

FROM: LIEUTENANT JOE WERNER *Joe Werner* **SUBJECT:**
UNIFORM PATROL DIVISION AWARD/HONOR NOMINATION

ACTION/RECOMMENDATION

I nominate Sergeant Phil Thomas for Officer of the Month, February 2015.

BACKGROUND

On Thursday, February 13th, 2015, at 0032 hours, Sergeant Thomas responded with officers from his squad to a domestic violence call at 50 Menores Avenue #804. Responding officers soon learned from the reporter/victim that her two year old child was forcibly taken from her by her ex-boyfriend/father of the child after a verbal altercation and a brief physical struggle. The offender threatened the victim with her death and the death of their child. Additionally, the victim's cellphone and a ring were taken from her. Sergeant Thomas directed his officers on the scene to broadcast a BOLO for the offender and his vehicle. Officers were then able to determine the location of the stolen phone which led officers to the offender's residence at, 9270 SW 21 Street. Sergeant Thomas left two officers with the victim while he and other officers responded to the offender's residence where his vehicle was found parked outside. Sergeant Thomas requested that MDPD respond to their location for assistance and officers from CGPD and MDPD took up a discreet position outside the offender's residence. The victim was able to establish phone contact with the offender who stated that he would return the two year old to the victim. Officers on Menores Avenue radioed the officers at the offender's residence to let them know that the offender would be exiting the residence shortly. When the offender exited his residence Sergeant Thomas and the other officers on the scene intercepted the offender and recovered the child without incident. The cell phone and ring were recovered. Sergeant Thomas had detectives and crime scene respond to process the victim's apartment, the offender's residence, and the offender's car. Sergeant Thomas kept me informed with the latest information throughout the incident. CGPD detectives interviewed all involved parties at the station. The offender was ultimately charged with:

- Occupied Burglary
- Robbery by Sudden Snatching
- Battery
- False Imprisonment
- Kidnapping Child Under 13

SYNOPSIS/CONCLUSION

All too often, we read in the news that somewhere in our country a family member takes the life of another family member in some type of domestic dispute. This did not happen due to the coordinated response provided by Sergeant Thomas and the officers under his supervision. Their actions, under his direction, led to the safe recovery of a two year old child. Sergeant Thomas coordinated our response at two locations and ensured that crime scenes were processed and all the accompanying paperwork was submitted. I believe that his actions warrant your consideration for the award of Officer of the Month for February 2015.

APPROVAL



Major Raul Pedroso
Uniform Patrol Division



Assistant Chief Michael C. Miller
Award Selection Committee

DATE



DISAPPROVAL

Major Raul Pedroso
Uniform Patrol Division

Assistant Chief Michael C. Miller
Award Selection Committee

JW/jw