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Title: Congratulations to Officer Kristopher Clute, recipient of the City of Coral Gables “Officer of the Month Award,” for the month of January 2023

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Congratulations to Officer Kristopher Clute, recipient of the City of Coral Gables “Officer of the Month Award,” for the month of January 2023

On January 23, 2023, Officer Kristopher Clute and his trainee, Officer Juan Trujillo, responded to 10900 Old Cutler Rd reference a suspicious male on the sidewalk who was not dressed. The officers contacted the subject, who was mumbling unintelligibly. He advised he was in Cuba, and he needed assistance because he wanted to hurt himself. The subject gave a name and date of birth, but he was unable to produce any type of identification. A record check revealed no record found for the information that was provided.

Officer Clute’s knowledge and experience, with the totality of the circumstances of the call, he decided to take the extra step and contacted our CID unit to assist him identifying the subject. They utilized our new investigative tool, FACESNXT, which allows law enforcement officers to use photos of individuals to identify who they are. This effort successfully identified the subject with his correct name, which revealed he was a missing person since December 27, 2022, from 9674 NW 10 Av Lot 651 (23-000490). The subject was then transported to Larkin Hospital for further evaluation and a recovery of a missing person report was completed so his next of kin could be notified by the Miami-Dade Police Department (PD221227429900).

The next day, on January 24, 2023, Officer Clute was on patrol, and he was following up with a complaint at 400 S Dixie Hwy (Chicken Kitchen) reference vehicles cutting through the parking lot from US1 to get to Lejeune Rd. Once he turned into the parking lot, Officer Clute observed two subjects conducting a hand-to-hand transaction of crack cocaine. Both offenders were detained and after Officer Clute completed his investigations, with the assistance from Officer Trujillo and CGPD SIS detectives, he recovered \$940.07 in small denominations and 13 bags of crack cocaine, which is consistent with street level narcotics sales. The same offender also had in his possession 15 Right Guard deodorant sticks in his backpack, which is consistent to items related to retail theft. Both offenders were arrested and transported to TGK. (23-000511)

Officer Kristopher Clute is one of the most experienced officers in the Uniform Patrol Division and he has always been thorough when doing his job. He has managed to train many of our officers within our agency and

he has done so with pride, integrity, and dedication. In these two recent incidents he continues to set the example by using his intuition and located a missing person who needed assistance, then arrested two offenders who endangered the public with drug sales. Therefore, Officer Kristopher Clute should be recognized and awarded with the Officer of the Month for January 2023.