



## Legislation Text

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Congratulations to Officer Robert Thomson, recipient of the City of Coral Gables “Officer of the Month Award,” for the month of January 2021.

It is with great pleasure that I nominate Officer Robert Thomson for the distinguish Officer of the Month Award. Documented below is the incident that motivated me to generate this memo.

On January 6, 2020, at approximately 8:58 a.m., while on routine patrol, Officer Thomson was traveling eastbound on SW 8 Street when he was alerted via City of Coral Gables Automatic License Plate Reader System (ALPR) of a stolen black BMW bearing FL Tag QNFV93. Officer Thomson observed the vehicle traveling westbound at the 5100 Block of SW 8 Street. The vehicle then made a left turn onto Columbus Blvd. Officer Thomson followed the vehicle until the vehicle pulled into the driveway of 837 Columbus Blvd. where he ordered the driver, Lazaro Y. Hernandez, and two passengers, Yailen H. Fernandez and Francisco Carone out of the vehicle. Officer Thomson was able to identify them through verbal communication and Teletype. A record check on the vehicle revealed that on January 5, 2021, it was reported stolen to Miami Police Department. All three subjects were transported to Coral Gables Police Department for further investigation.

Further investigation revealed, Mr. Hernandez had a gray backpack that belonged to him in the trunk of the stolen vehicle. A search of the backpack revealed a total of 45 stolen credit cards in different names. Detective Rios contacted numerous victims who advised their credit cards along with other property were stolen from their possession. Mr. Carone was interviewed by CID Detectives and further investigation revealed that he was involved in a generator theft that took place at Harbor Freight Tools located at 1044 SW 67 Av. Miami Dade Police Department was contacted and arrested Mr. Carone for the theft.

Due to these collective efforts, the constant display of professionalism, and investigative tenacity, ensured the proper handling of this complicated case which resulted in the recovery of a stolen vehicle, solved multiple cases involving two different agencies and the apprehension of two subjects.

It is because of Officer Thomson's exceptional knowledge of the City's geography, the expediting of his rapid response and the tactical mindset approach to the incident location, that Officer Robert Thomson was able to swiftly apprehend these offenders. Therefore, it is with the utmost respect and gratitude that I nominate Officer Robert Thomson for the prestigious award: *"Officer of the Month."*