

SOUTH MIAMI POLICE DEPARTMENT

Annual Report 2020

RENÉ G. LANDA,
CHIEF OF POLICE

SHARI KAMALI,
CITY MANAGER

SALLY PHILLIPS,
MAYOR





2020 ELECTED OFFICIALS

MAYOR Sally B Philips

VICE MAYOR Bob Welsh, Group III

COMMISSIONER Josh Liebman, Group II

COMMISSIONER Luis Gil, Group I

COMMISSIONER Walter Harris, Group IV

2020 CHARTERED OFFICIALS

CITY CLERK Nkenga Payne

CITY MANAGER Shari Kamali

CITY ATTORNEY Thomas Pepe, ESQ.

South Miami utilizes a City Manager form of government. Meaning, the Commission sets the policies and the City Manager acts as the Chief Executive.

Commissioners are elected to four-year terms and the Mayor is elected to a two-year term. The

Commissioner receiving the most votes is also given the title of Vice Mayor for the first two years of the term.



South Miami Police

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MISSION STATEMENT

TO DELIVER PROFESSIONAL
POLICE SERVICES IN PARTNERSHIP
WITH THE PEOPLE WE SERVE, IN
ORDER TO PROVIDE A SAFE AND
SECURE ENVIRONMENT FOR ALL

VISION STATEMENT

TO BE A WORLD CLASS LAW
ENFORCEMENT AGENCY, ONE THAT
EXHIBITS TRAITS FOR OTHER
AGENCIES TO EUMULATE, ONE THAT
IS CONSTANTLY ENDEAVORING TO
IMPROVE AND STAY ON THE
CUTTING EDGE OF THE POLICING
PROFESSION; AN AGENCY THAT
IMPRESSES ITS CITIZENS THE FIRST
AND EVERY TIME, ALWAYS STRIVING
TO IMPROVE UPON ITS SUCCESSES
AND ONE THAT EMPOWERS AND
ENCOURAGES ITS EMPLOYEES TO
SERVICE THE PUBLIC AND PROTECT
LIFE AND PROPERTY WITH DIGNITY,
HONOR AND PRIDE.

CORE VALUES

EXCELLENCE
INTEGRITY
INCLUSION



SOUTH MIAMI POLICE

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Annual Report Produced by : Lisa Corbin, Communications Manager

Chief's Message

As Chief of Police I am pleased to introduce our 2020 Annual Report. Although this was a trying year for our great country and law enforcement, the men and women of the South Miami Police Department (SMPD) continued to honor their oath. They served the great citizens and community in order to protect this City twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. I am very proud of our employees; sworn and civilian alike, coming to work and fighting this invisible enemy, a world wide pandemic, known as COVID 19. It is an astonishing fact that during 2020, four times as many police officers died nationwide of COVID 19 than those killed by gunfire.

Even as we faced the uncertainty of this virus, our agency continued to provide outstanding service to our community. For the safety of our residents and employees, we had to modify some of our services to protect everyone from unnecessary face to face contact with our officers, dispatchers and staff. All of our officers were provided with appropriate Personal Protective Equipment and were required to follow CDC guidelines on all safety measures like the rest of the country but specifically those in law enforcement where our mind set normally is to respond and initiate first aid or protection of others without pause .

Luckily our workforce, much like other police agencies, have younger employees that were asymptomatic and once quarantine was met, were able to return to work with little or no effects from exposure. We did however, have few personnel that sustained more serious symptoms and continue to experience effects of the virus.

As we begin 2021, I feel more than ever, it is crucial that our department work to foster continued safe and positive relationships between community members and our officers. As we move forward we will continue to focus on our fundamental duty to “Protect and Serve” all citizens and keep South Miami one of the safest cities in the county. The South Miami Police Department will continue to serve on the frontline for all.

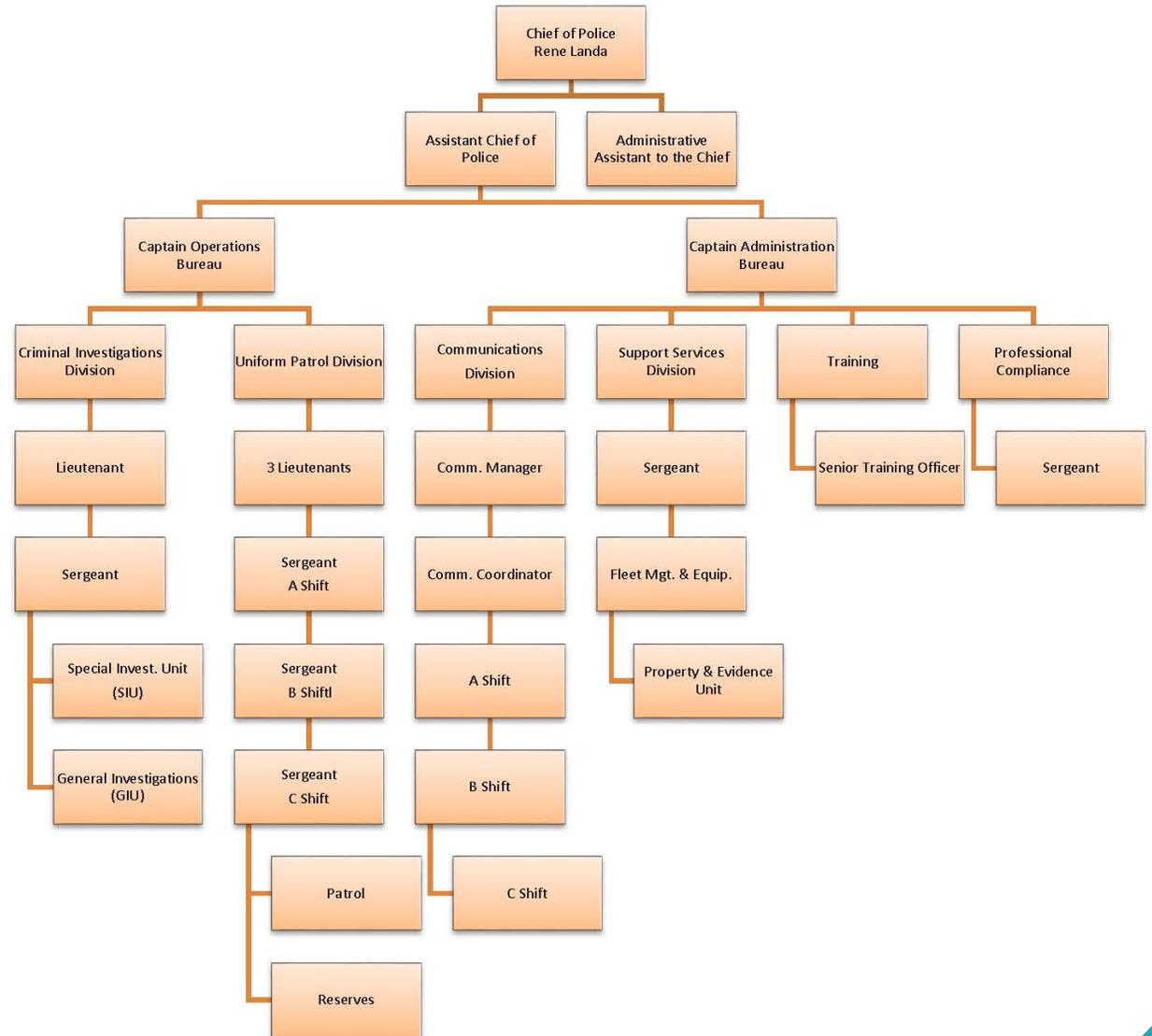


CHIEF RENÉ G. LANDÁ

Organizational Chart

South Miami Police Department was established February 15, 1927 under the guidance of the following;

- Chief William J. Weaver 1927-1929
- Chief Poe 1929-1937
- Chief George Weigand 1937-1944
- Chief Chuck McKinney 1944-1951
- Chief Earnest Tatum 1951-1967
- Chief Sal Vizinni 1967-1980
- Chief Hank Selsky 1980-1986
- Chief Perry S. Turner 1986-1994
- Chief Rafael Hernandez 1995-1997
- Chief Cokes Watson 1997 - 2003
- Chief Orlando Martinez 2004-2006
- Chief Vincent Landis 2006-2008
- Chief Robert Richardson 2008-2009
- Chief Orlando Martinez 2010-2012
- Chief René G. Landa 2013-Present



Contact Us:

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Captain John Barzola

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Lieutenant Jesus Aguiar

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Lieutenant Junior Vijil

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Lieutenant Robert Bukens

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Lieutenant Kile Nave

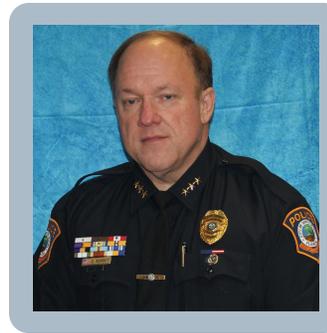
786.456.2231

knave@southmiamipdf.org

Command Staff



Chief René Landa



Asst. Chief Charles Nanney



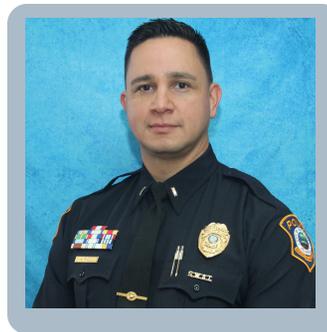
Captain Larry Corbin



Captain John Barzola



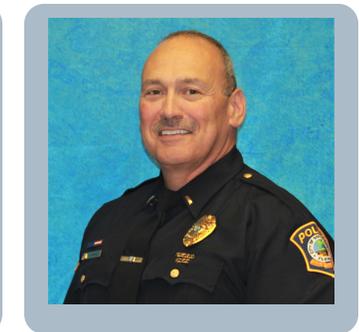
Lt. Jesus Aguiar



Lt. Junior Vijil



Lt. Robert Bukens



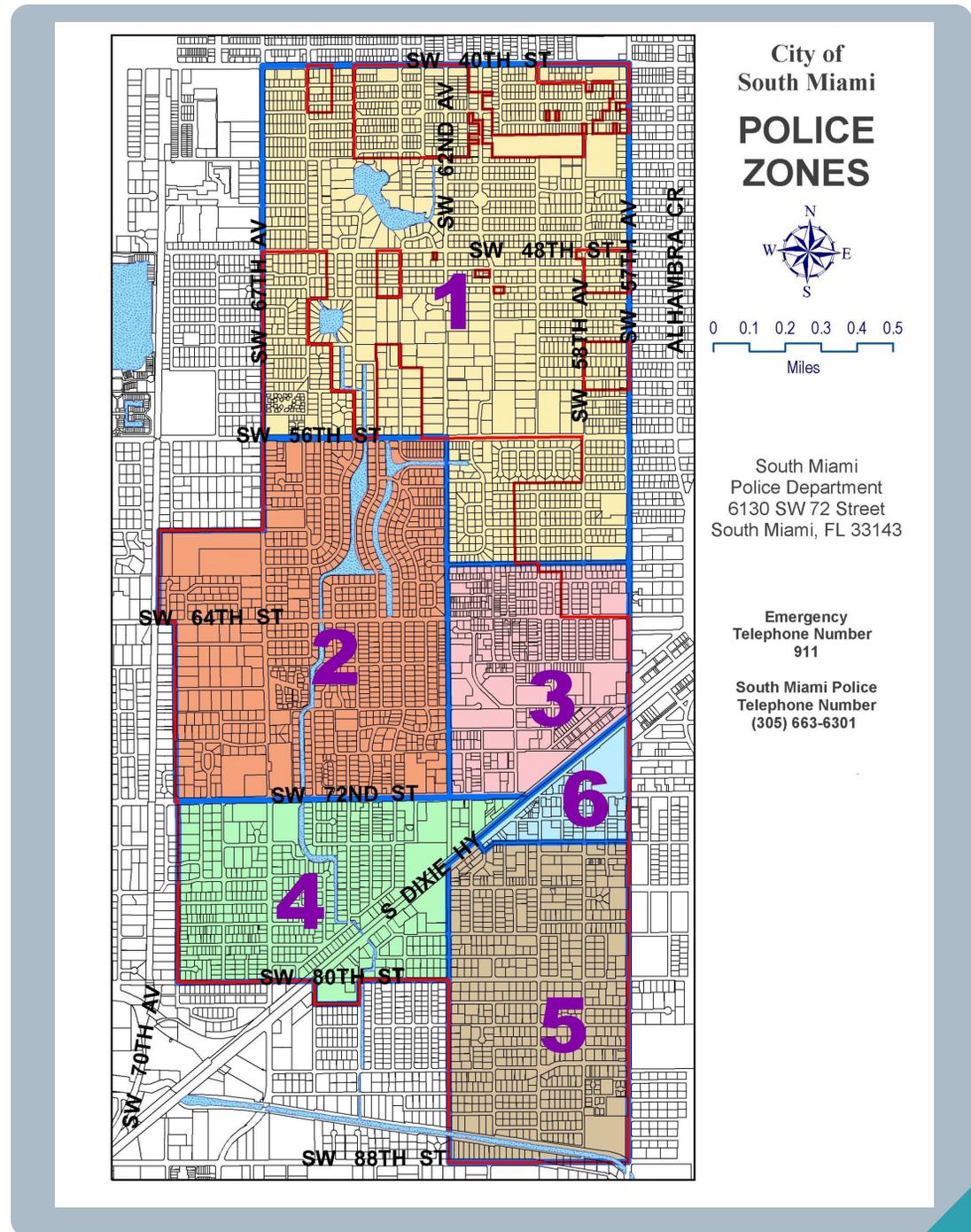
Lt. Kile Nave

City Boundaries & Zones

The City of South Miami encompasses about 3 square miles.

It borders unincorporated Miami Dade County, Coral Gables, the University of Miami and Pinecrest.

According to the 2019 US Census, South Miami's population is just under 12,000 residents.



Crime Comparison 19'-20'



CRIME IN FLORIDA ABSTRACT

South Miami Police Department

January - December 2020

(UNVERIFIED - SUBMITTED DATA FOR REVIEW)

Florida Department of
Law Enforcement

The statistics presented in this release are an indication of crime and criminal activities known to, and reported by, law enforcement agencies for 2020. This report reflects data residing in the UCR database as of 1/28/2021.

Crime Volume and Rate

MEASURE	2019	2020	Percent Change
Total Index Crime	514	477	-7.2
Total Violent Crime	39	50	28.2
Total Property Crime	475	427	-10.1
Total Crime Rate	3,964.5	3,697.7	-6.7
Violent Crime Rate	300.8	387.6	28.9
Property Crime Rate	3,663.7	3,310.1	-9.7

Offense Totals

INDEX OFFENSES	2019	2020	Percent Change
Murder	1	0	-100.0
Firearm	0	0	
Knife/Cutting Instr.	0	0	
Hands/Fists/Feet	0	0	
Other	1	0	-100.0
Rape	1	6	500.0
Firearm	0	0	
Knife/Cutting Instr.	0	0	
Hands/Fists/Feet	0	2	
Other	1	4	300.0
Robbery	10	13	30.0
Firearm	1	1	0.0
Knife/Cutting Instr.	0	2	
Hands/Fists/Feet	8	10	25.0
Other	1	0	-100.0
Aggravated Assault	27	31	14.8
Firearm	7	7	0.0
Knife/Cutting Instr.	1	7	600.0
Hands/Fists/Feet	8	8	0.0
Other	11	9	-18.2
Burglary	84	90	7.1
Forced Entry	33	28	-15.2
No Forced Entry	44	55	25.0
Attempted Entry	7	7	0.0
Larceny	366	318	-13.1
Pocket Picking	14	1	-92.9
Purse Snatching	7	4	-42.9
Shoplifting	69	93	34.8
From Motor Vehicle	131	90	-31.3
Motor Vehicle Parts	17	17	0.0
Bicycles	16	23	43.8
From Building	11	3	-72.7
From Coin Oper. Dev.	0	0	
All Other	101	87	-13.9
Motor Vehicle Theft	25	19	-24.0
TOTAL INDEX OFFENSES	514	477	-7.2

Arrest Totals

ARREST TYPE	2019	2020	Percent Change
Violent Offense Arrests	27	25	-7.4
Adult	23	25	8.7
Juvenile	4	0	-100.0
Male	25	18	-28.0
Female	2	7	250.0
Property Offense Arrests	60	46	-23.3
Adult	43	43	0.0
Juvenile	17	3	-82.4
Male	49	38	-22.4
Female	11	8	-27.3
Part II Offense Arrests	127	134	5.5
Adult	122	133	9.0
Juvenile	5	1	-80.0
Male	91	108	18.7
Female	36	26	-27.8
TOTAL ARRESTS	214	205	-4.2

Domestic Violence by Offense Type

PRIMARY OFFENSE	2019	2020	Percent Change
Murder	1	0	-100.0
Manslaughter	0	0	
Rape	0	0	
Fondling	0	0	
Aggravated Assault	4	5	25.0
Aggravated Stalking	0	0	
Simple Assault	27	28	3.7
Threat/Intimidation	1	3	200.0
Simple Stalking	0	0	
TOTAL OFFENSES	33	36	9.1

Property Information Values

PROPERTY TYPE	STOLEN VALUE	RECOVERED VALUE
Currency, Note, Etc.	51,878	40
Jewelry, Precious Metals	96,770	300
Clothing & Furs	23,762	1,010
Motor Vehicles	486,100	273,701
Office Equipment	61,322	4,396
TVs, Radios, Stereos	4,188	0
Firearms	2,299	0
Household Goods	299	1
Consumable Goods	2,024	240
Livestock	0	0
Miscellaneous	198,040	6,617
TOTAL VALUES	926,682	286,305

SOURCE: Florida Department of Law Enforcement. Florida Uniform Crime Report, 2020 [Computer program]. Tallahassee, FL: FDLE, Florida Statistical Analysis Center.

Decade in Review

"The goal of the South Miami is to reduce crime every year including years when we face hurricanes, budget shortfalls or pandemics".
-Chief R. Landa

Violent Crimes



Non-Violent Crimes



Total Reported Offenses



Arrests



The Administration Bureau oversees Communications, Training, Professional Compliance and Support Services for the Police Department. The Administration Bureau is responsible for Vehicle Procurement, Special Initiatives, Budget, Records Management, Product Research, Training and other ancillary services as assigned by the Chief of Police. We are tasked as the project managers for the Body Worn Camera and the Red Light Camera programs.

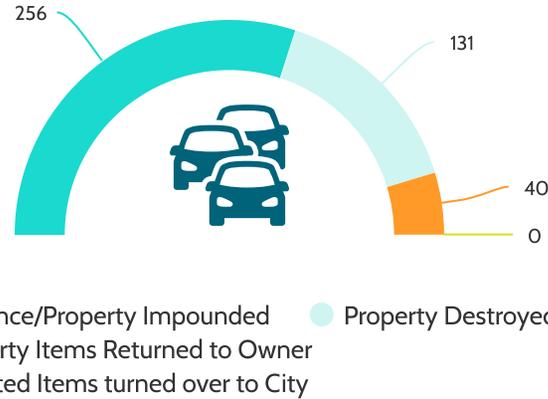
Throughout 2020, COVID reduced many of the outside training opportunities made available to the Department. However, with previously adopted technologies such as the training simulator and web-based programs, we were able to continue our commitment to instruction. Additionally, we opened a training site at the Mobley Center with the assistance of the City Manager's Office and the Parks & Recreation Department. This enabled us to provide hands on education along with classroom sessions.

Contracts with Redflex for continued enforcement and MDPD's school crossing guard programs were also executed providing safe areas for our children and citizens.

-Captain John Barzola

Administrative Bureau

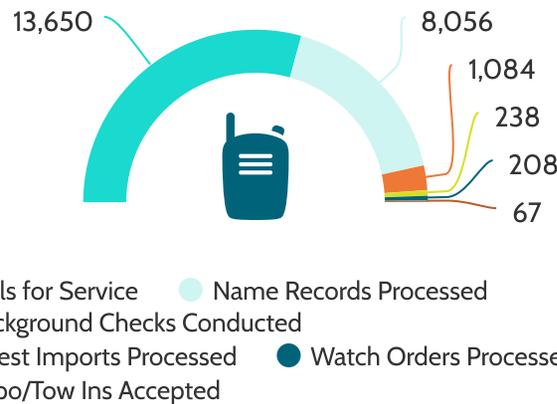
Support Services



Professional Compliance



Communications



Training

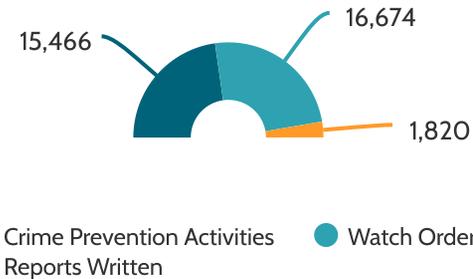
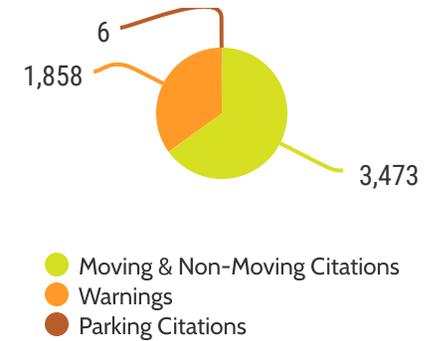
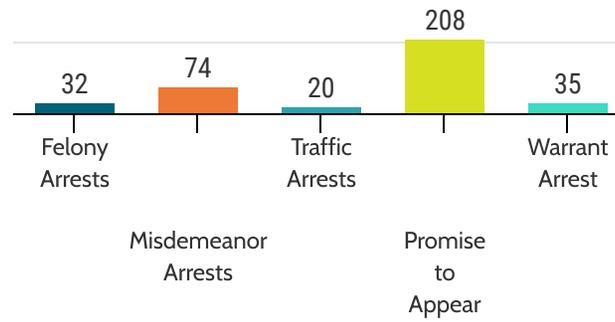


Operations Bureau

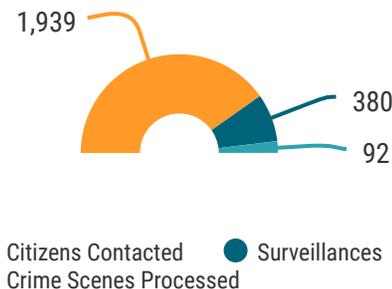
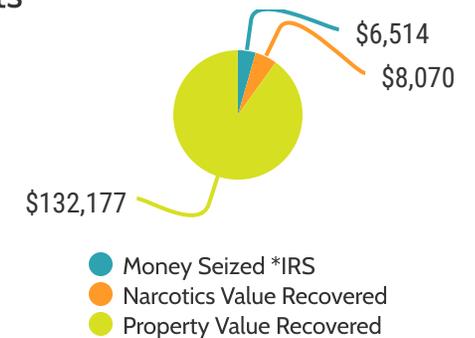
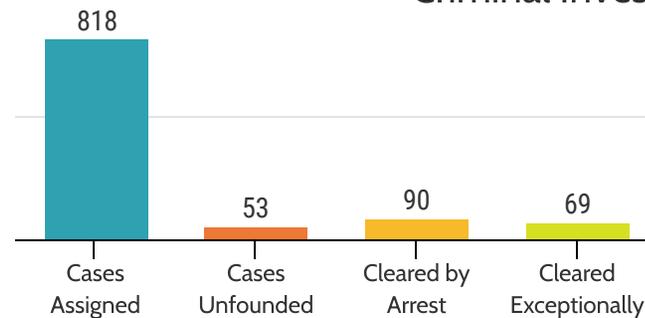
The Operations Bureau is the largest within the agency overseeing both the Uniform Patrol & Criminal Investigations Divisions. Patrol is responsible for handling calls for service; crimes, crashes, medical emergencies and various citizen complaints. Investigations is divided into two units; General & Special. General (GIU) focuses on follow-up investigations to criminal reports against persons and property. Special (SIU), focuses on narcotics and vice crimes. This year crimes had an overall clearance rate of 19.5% and Criminal Investigations had a clearance rate of 28.5%. This includes cases not meeting UCR requirements.

-Capt. Larry Corbin

Uniform Patrol Stats



Criminal Investigations Stats



CFA

Commission for Law Enforcement Accreditation

Chief René G. Landa, along with City Manager Shari Kamali and members of the command staff, traveled to St. Augustine, FL in February. There they accepted the Certificate of Reaccreditation by the Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation. This was awarded for voluntarily complying with required professional police standards. Out of 455 police agencies in the state, only 168 have earned this prestigious award. This process involves state assessors coming into our facility over several days in order to review our polices, interview of our employees and make sure that we are in compliance with standards the commission has set. Our agency complied with 206 standards, 29 were not applicable and 4 were elected exempt.

-Lt. Jesus Aguiar

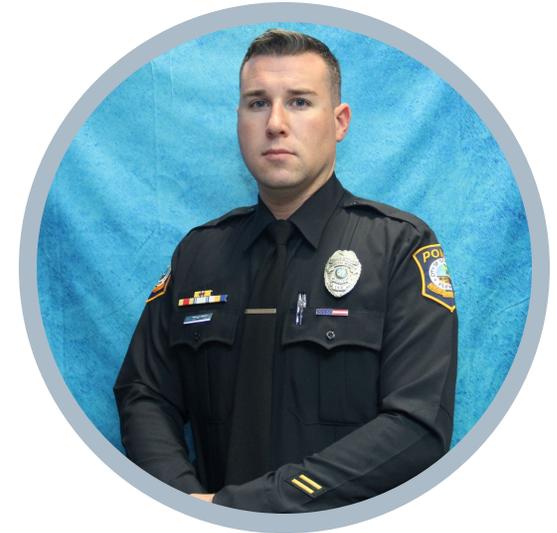


Awards

Officer of the Month
Life Saving Awards
Unit Citation Award
Chief's Excellence Award



Ofc. Chelsy Landa receives a Life Saving Award in March for her role in rescuing a suicide victim



Ofc. John Edwards receives the Life Saving Award in March for his role in rescuing a suicide victim



Det. Matt Taylor receives the Officer of the Month Award in August for the capture of an attempted murder subject involved in multiple shootings.



SOUTH MIAMI POLICE

New Hires

This year our agency had the pleasure of bringing on Charles Nanney as Assistant Chief. Asst. Chief Nanney retired from the Miami Dade Police Department after a 31 year career in law enforcement where he oversaw many of the agencies divisions, most recently as the Chief of Special Investigations. Asst. Chief Nanney holds a Master of Science in Criminal Justice as well as a Bachelors of Science both received from Florida International University.

"Asst. Chief Nanney brings with him a wealth of knowledge, years of experience and leadership abilities which will help move our department forward and further our mission of protecting and serving the City of South Miami".

- Chief R. Landa



Assist Chief Nanney reciting the Oath presented by Chief Landa



Assist Chief Nanney's wife pins his Badge on his uniform



Victoria Melean hired as a Communications Officer



Latoya Butler hired as a Communications Officer



Ofc. Jorge Orbeta takes the Oath and has his son pin his badge on his uniform.



Ofc. Jorge Agular takes the Oath and has his son pin his badge on his uniform.

Police Athletic League

The South Miami Police Department's PAL program is run by Executive Director, Ofc. Marcus Kinlaw. Ofc.

Kinlaw oversees all aspects of the program with the help of six assistant coaches and volunteers. The COVID 19

Pandemic hampered many of this years activities. 48 out of 51 kids were able to participate in the one and only

Track Meet and there was a modified Kids Fitness Program in order to comply with COVID restrictions. By

late November the team was able to begin pre-season conditioning with 25 kids. By year's end, the PAL program

was able to move into Bay #3 of the Mobley Building which has been furnished and prepped for classroom

activities and Ofc. Kinlaw participated in "No Shave November" fundraiser for cancer. PAL still aims to begin a STEM

(Science, Technology, Engineering & Math) and Mentorship Program along with Boxing & Baseball.

-Ofc. Marcus Kinlaw



Back Pack Giveaway



1 Day Track Camp at UM



Track Meet Participation



No Shave November

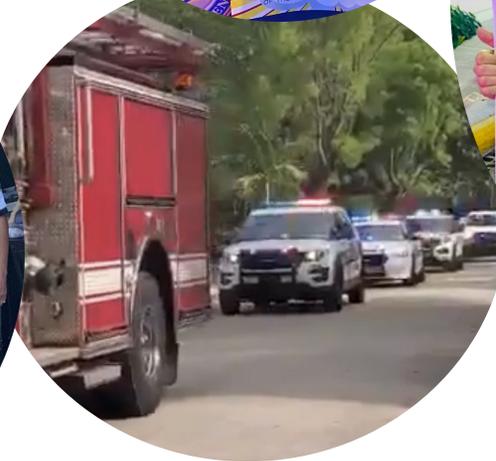


SOUTH MIAMI POLICE

Community Involvement

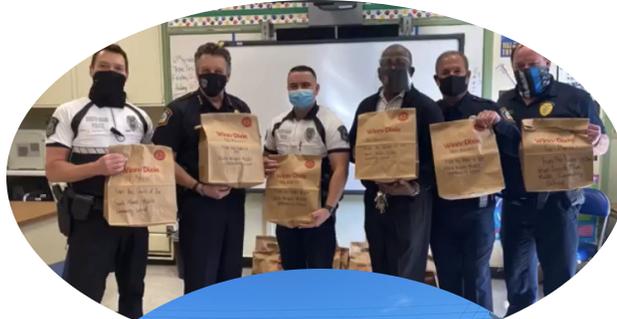
SMPD prides itself on Community Involvement. Unfortunately, the pandemic eliminated and pushed back many of our usual events like "Coffee with a Cop", crime watch meetings and school career days. During this time, medical experts served tirelessly at the frontlines, while caring for those infected. In hopes of bringing some joy and much gratitude for their work, we were able to join the fire department and community leaders honoring those workers. We held up signs of support, drawings of caricatures, signs with inspirational sayings and showed appreciation by safely handing out some treats for them to enjoy.

This unprecedented circumstance also precluded children from having birthday or graduation parties so we participated in many drive by celebrations with lights & sirens to show our support for their achievements and important milestones in life.



Community Involvement

We continued to honor the smallest victims of cancer by attending the Annual Mystic Force Foundation Event and the Miami Beach Police Breast Cancer Car Display Event . But by year's end we were all ready for some change, for some interaction with others in our beloved community. So the City decided to host it's first ever Drive Thru Safe Streets. Each department hosted their own display of graveyards, skeletons, scary pirates and frightful monsters with kids receiving "trunk treats" to enjoy later on. During November & December, we worked alongside The Power of One in order to help distribute blankets for the homeless; with the Embrace Girls Foundation who provided about 70 Thanksgiving dinners to needy families made by their catering partner Soul Town Barbeque; and the American Legions Post #31 delivering toys they collected to those in need.



Community Affairs



This unit was originally assigned to develop and cement liaisons with the business community and engage business owners with the Department and the City. The dedication to that effort has borne fruit.

Because our successes led well beyond just the Business District, Chief René Landa expanded the Business District Officer's responsibilities to include the position of Community Affairs Officer. Officer Rodney Napier is the first to serve in that capacity under the direction of, Assistant Chief Charles Nanney, Captain Corbin and Lieutenant Vijil.

Specifically, we established the City's first Homeless Outreach Program, providing homeless shelter beds and services exclusive to the South Miami Police Department. We implemented this by securing outside funding without any expense to the City.

We brought back the visibility of the Bike Patrol Unit encouraging casual and friendly encounters. This also led to a greater focus on identifying and rectifying over 120 Quality of Life issues throughout the city.

In addition, our work with Florida's Crisis Intervention System landed a key role for our Community Affairs Officer as a Subcommittee Co-Chair of the Eleventh Judicial Circuit Criminal Mental Health Crisis Intervention Team. This will enable the South Miami Police Department to wield even broader influence throughout Miami-Dade County.



POLICING WITH COMPASSION

Every week, in a quiet corner of the South Miami library, a small group of people are changing lives. Led by the South Miami Police Community Affairs Officer, Rodney Napier, they are helping those among our communities most vulnerable.

With this program, Officer Napier, together with specialized Case Workers meet with members of South Miami's homeless population on a weekly basis. The program aims to give homeless people a path to recovery and productivity.

Over a time frame of approximately 10 weeks, the team guides attendees through the challenges of getting back on their feet. From helping get basic documents like social security cards and birth certificates, to finding employment and the ultimate prize, permanent housing.

The Program has been in place for just over a year. In that time, more than a dozen people have been helped from homeless to hopeful. This program helps people rise again and reclaim their lives.



Community Affairs

SOUTH MIAMI POLICE DEPARTMENT EMERGENCY SHELTER SERVICES SPONSORED BY BAPTIST HEALTH SOUTH MIAMI HOSPITAL



The South Miami Police Department, through its Community Affairs Office began advocating for the need of emergency shelter for our area homeless population. A 6 month Pilot Project funded by South Miami Hospital ensued and it was a smashing success. The 100% utilization rate demonstrated the ongoing and immediate need for 2 dedicated emergency shelter beds.

As our philanthropic partner, South Miami Hospital, guided by William Duquette and Jeanette Stone, took a major community stance by helping our department fill the critical void for providing the path from transitional to permanent housing for our homeless population.

The South Miami Police Department now has two dedicated emergency shelter beds at Camillus House where persons without permanent housing can have refuge from the elements and be assisted in ending their homeless situation:

1. Providing emergency shelter with the goal to transition into permanent housing.
2. Camillus House provides each bed and a large range of related services.
3. Covered Term: November 1, 2020 – October 31, 2021.

The emergency shelter beds are located at the Camillus' Norwegian Cruise Line Campus, 1603 NW 7th Avenue, Miami. The Emergency Shelter beds are available on a 24-7 basis to allow South Miami Police Officers to make placements at any hour as needed.

Persons participating in the South Miami Hospital sponsored Police Department/Camillus House Emergency Shelter Partnership have access to a full range of services specifically designed for persons who are homeless.

“Our goal is not to simply move the homeless across some city line to make them someone else’s issue; it is to provide them with the helping hand needed to overcome tremendous obstacles”, Chief René Landa said.



Officer Appreciation

Displays of appreciation were two fold, for as much as we gave, we received from our community. We had many organizations arrange caravans that showed Law Enforcement support during a time when it seemed as though Law Enforcement was the enemy. These caravans stretched for miles and had vehicles decorated with balloons, ribbons and signs reminding us that they care and showed us that we are appreciated.

The PBA and businesses donated masks, restaurants delivered food, Chick-fil-A provided gift cards for officers and certain organizations of faith wrote cards of inspiration. The Chief and his Staff held many BBQ's for the employees and during National Police Week each was given a Star Wars cookie which signified that they are STARS to us, we were facing the COVID WAR on health and they belong to a strong Force!



Fallen Heroes

In memory of Fallen Officer Joseph
Kephart..

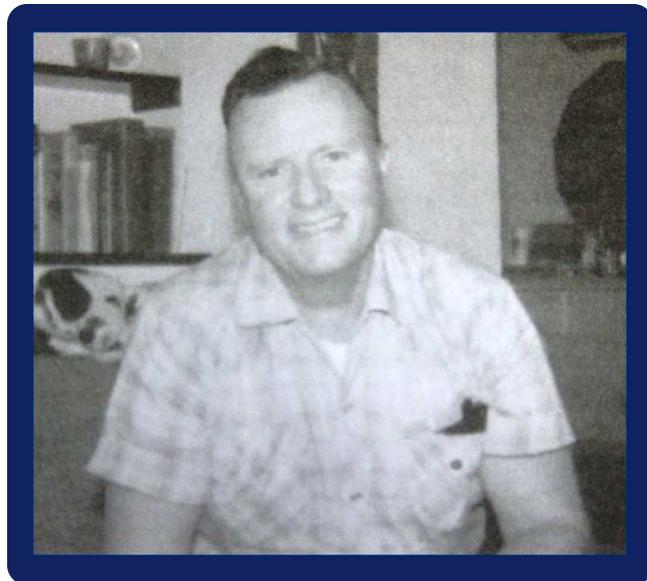
Sergeant Kephart died in the line of duty
after being hit head-on in a vehicle
collision while driving home from work
after his tour of duty.

Sergeant Kephart succumbed to his
injuries on January 18, 1970.

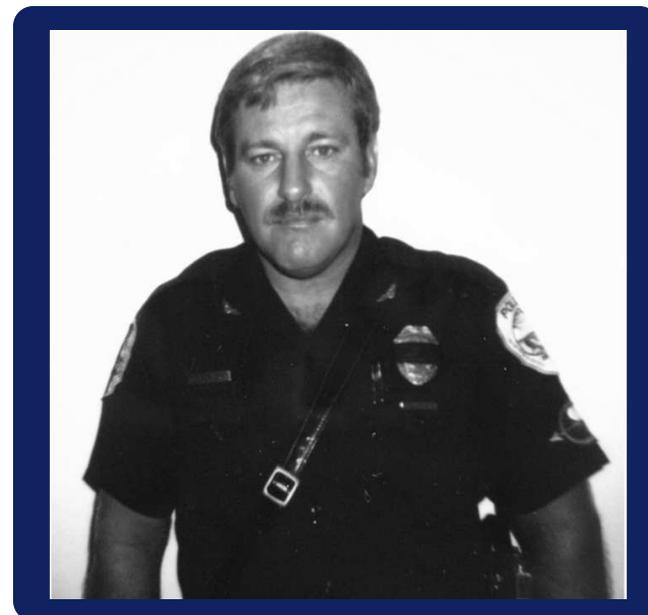
In memory of Fallen Officer L. Daniel
Schulz...

Officer Schulz died in the line of duty
after being stabbed while working an
off duty job. On October 15, 1987
Officer Schulz attempted to arrest a
juvenile gang member who had been
causing problems at the Bakery Centre
(now known as AMC Theaters/Sunset
Pl) movie theater. As he was taking the
subject into custody, he was stabbed
four times by the subjects fellow gang
members.

Officer Schulz succumbed to his injuries
on November 27, 1987.



Sgt. Joseph O. Kephart



Ofc. L. Daniel Schulz