



## DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Stephanie V. Daniels



The first quarter of 2024 was a busy one. I was humbled by the outpouring of support during my Investiture Ceremony on Wednesday, January 10, 2024; it was truly energizing, and epitomized the “family” culture that makes this Department the best law enforcement agency in the United States. I am honored to have the opportunity to speak on behalf of the Department at community events. We truly have a great relationship with the community and that is attributable to all the hard work you do on a consistent basis.

Speaking of family culture, on Thursday, January 18, 2024, we welcomed 43 officers from Basic Law Enforcement (BLE) Class #141. They are now assigned throughout the Department doing terrific work. Additionally, there are two classes currently in session, Lateral #6, with 34 trainees, scheduled to graduate on May 8, 2024, and BLE #142, with 53 trainees, scheduled to graduate on June 6, 2024.

January was Human Trafficking Prevention Month. This Department works tirelessly to prevent Human Trafficking and to bring those who prey upon others to justice. On Saturday, January 27, 2024, our Organized Crimes Bureau's Human Trafficking Squad, located a missing juvenile and arrested an adult male for the crime of Human Trafficking. The dedication to duty and hard work of the detectives of our Human Trafficking Squad cannot be overstated. For far too long, this juvenile victim had been in the hands of the worst kinds of individuals, those who prey against our vulnerable youth. I am so proud of the Squad's efforts. I also appreciate how many of you actively participated in National Human Trafficking Awareness Day on Thursday, January 11, 2024, by wearing blue and decorating your work or office space in blue, to raise awareness. Congratulations to Miami Lakes Municipal District's NRU for winning the Human Trafficking Awareness Lobby decorating contest.

We held two fun events that raised thousands of dollars for the non-profit Police Officer Assistance Trust. The first was our 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Homeruns for Heroes Kickball Tournament, a friendly competition that was held on Friday, January 26, and Saturday, January 27, 2024. The second event, our first ever Pigskin Challenge, was held on Friday, March 8, 2024, in Miami Gardens. The challenge drew athletes from 11 law enforcement agencies to compete in three individual events, Running Back, Quarterback, and Kicker, and also a team relay. Congratulations to our very own Officer Dimitri Gardner, who won the 40-yard sprint with a blazing 4.5 seconds! A special thanks to the Miami Dolphins organization for providing the prizes, autographed jerseys, and members of their cheer squad to the event. We are fortunate to partner with the Miami Dolphins for many community-oriented events.

In this second quarter of 2024, let's continue to build upon the momentum we've established, and let's continue to emphasize Officer Wellness!

Sincerely,

Stephanie V. Daniels  
Director





# Detective Ricaurte Lugo Jr. Awarded Distinguished Officer of the Year for 2023

By Brian Ballou



There was a calmness in Detective Ricaurte Lugo Jr.'s voice as he spoke into his radio on December 5, 2022. He had been tracking an individual in the Northwest District, suspected of an armed carjacking days earlier, when suddenly, the suspect began shooting at Detective Lugo, who was sitting in his unmarked car. A bullet struck the Detective in the face, just under his left eye.

Detective Lugo, a member of the Robbery Intervention Detail (RID), told the Police Dispatcher, "I'm hit, I've been shot in the face," and then he gave a physical description of the assailant and his clothing, and details about the car he fled in.

After calling the Police Dispatcher, Detective Lugo tended to his injury until other officers from RID, and Miami-Dade Fire Rescue, arrived on scene to render him aid. Detective Lugo was airlifted to Ryder Trauma Center in serious condition.

The information that Detective Lugo passed on to the Police Dispatcher, in the midst of the chaos that had unfolded, was enough to help members of RID apprehend the suspect, who was subsequently charged with Attempted First-degree Murder of a Law Enforcement Officer. Detective Lugo was awarded the Distinguished Officer

of the Year, the Gold Medal of Valor, and Purple Heart Award.

In the award ceremony on Monday, February 5, 2024, Detective Lugo said, "I definitely accept this humbly, on behalf of all of our brothers and sisters who got hurt or killed in the line of duty, who didn't make it home, especially my very own brother Echy . . ." The incident occurred less than four months after a beloved member of RID, Cesar "Echy" Echaverry was killed in the line of duty.

Strategic Response Division Chief Carmen M. Castro, who at the time of the incident was newly assigned to the Robbery Bureau, said "That day, Detective Lugo was a very lucky man, because he was reborn on that day, but he remained calm throughout the whole incident, he was able to provide his location, he was able to provide a description of the vehicle, and the fellow officers responded, and were able to apprehend the subject. Even though in a moment when others would get nervous or lose their concentration, he remained calm, that is a testament to the training that these officers receive, that is a testament of the heart that they have, in doing real police work and the teamwork involved."



# Aircraft Technician Pablo D. Quiles Awarded Civilian of the Year for 2023

By Brian Ballou



Aircraft Technician Pablo D. Quiles was in the process of completing his 100-hour maintenance on a Miami-Dade Police Department helicopter, on Tuesday, May 30, 2023. He was going through a checklist of tasks specified by the aircraft's maintenance manual, when he decided to make an additional check of a hard-to-reach section of the helicopter's tail rotor assembly. He had to use specialized lights and mirrors to inspect it. The section had recently undergone maintenance by an outside vendor, but Mr. Quiles wanted to take a look at it anyway.

Upon close inspection, he discovered something that could have potentially put lives in danger if the craft were airborne. He discovered a loose nut on the bolt that connects the antitorque pedals to the tail rotor control rods. The nut

was not safely wired by the outside maintenance facility that had performed the most recent work on the aircraft. Mr. Quiles made the appropriate repairs and wired the nut to prevent it from coming undone. Had it come undone during flight, the pilot would have encountered a loss of tail rotor control that could have led to a crash.

"I've worked with Pablo ever since I got to the unit, so since 2007, I've been flying the aircraft that he and others in our civilian support staff, who often get overlooked, help keep us alive every day," said Chief Pilot Brendan Gill Jr.

# Group Violence Intervention Program Embarks on Fifth Year of Partnership with Department

By Brian Ballou

The Group Violence Intervention (GVI) program has been partnering with the Miami-Dade Police Department since January 2020, in an effort to reduce gun violence. GVI's mission is to disrupt the cycle of retaliation and to offer an alternative path to the individuals known to be involved in violent crime.

"The key thing is to prevent retaliation and victimization," said Mr. Wayne Rawlings, GVI Project Manager. "We have served over 500 individuals since the inception, and currently have about 150 clients."

Since the Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners adopted the GVI program in March 2019, in an effort to reduce gun violence, and the Department first integrated it in the Northside District in January 2020, GVI has evolved—it is now operational in the Northside, Intracoastal, and South Districts. Last year, the \$7 million, four-year County contract was renewed.

Typically, after an incident involving gun violence, the ShotSpotter system (ShotSpotter is a high-tech acoustic detection system capable of locating the origin of gunfire) will issue an alert, or a call for service will come in to the Department's 911 Center. Police respond, secure the scene, and investigate. It is then the discretion of the District Commander to initiate an encrypted alert to GVI, to mobilize its "Hospital-based Violence Intervention Program" (HVIP) initiative. If an alert is warranted, it is typically issued within 90 minutes. The initiative has been in operation for two years, and is embedded at the Jackson Health Systems Ryder Trauma Center, with "bedside intervention."

HVIP combines the efforts of medical staff and mental health professionals with trusted community-based partners to provide safety planning, wraparound services, and trauma-informed care to victims of gun violence, Mr. Rawlings said.

The staff includes a volunteer Medical Director/Trauma Surgeon, five Social Workers/Case Managers (one holds a PhD and the other four have an MSW or similar degree), a Licensed Clinical Social Workers as Supervisor, a Jackson

Health System Data Coordinator, a Registered Nurse Practitioner, a Project Manager, and an Assistant Project Manager, in addition to guidance from highly-trained hospital staff and administrators.



***"The key thing is to prevent retaliation and victimization,"***  
Wayne Rawlings, GVI Project Manager.

The key is to intervene with the victims of gun violence, in the hospital, during their recovery, which has proven to be effective in helping the patient to return to the community with a different mindset. After their discharge from the hospital, the counseling and other support continue, not just for the individual but also for his family.

HVIP is currently addressing numerous service needs; relocation support, financial support (utilities, housing, food, safe living environments, and medical needs), linkage to mental health services, employment search guidance, and advocating for physical health and medical needs.

GVI also coordinates the "Walking One Stop" in collaboration with the Department. Areas where gun violence is acute are identified through ShotSpotter, and those areas are visited by HVIP staff and officers. "Walking One Stop brings social and economic resources to the doorstep of residents who have experienced recurring traumatic events. Walking One Stop is using data-driven place-based crime forecast algorithms in a non-traditional way to infuse interventions in hot spots for extremely high-risk individuals."

The initiative has caught the attention of law enforcement agencies nationwide, and internationally.

"We are the envy of a lot of places. We've had numerous visits over the past several years, where officials from as far away as Copenhagen, Denmark, have come to study our model," Mr. Rawlings said.



# Retired Sergeants Return to Department as Investigative Specialists

By Brian Ballou



Investigative Specialists Dorothy A. Dorsett (left) and James E. Dixon, retired as Sergeants after long careers, but have returned to the Department as professional staff. (photos by Brian Ballou)

Within the Miami-Dade Police Department's Personnel Management Bureau, Ms. Dorothy A. Dorsett and Mr. James E. Dixon serve as Investigative Specialists. Their responsibility is to conduct thorough investigations into job applicants' backgrounds, including their education, work history, and notably, their social media activity. This meticulous process aims to ensure that each applicant meets the Department's stringent hiring standards.

Both Ms. Dorsett and Mr. Dixon have experienced this scrutiny firsthand twice, as applicants to the police academy, and later, after retirement, as candidates for their current roles. While it is common for professional staff to transition into becoming police officers, the reverse, where a police officer becomes a professional employee after retirement, is quite rare.

For Ms. Dorsett, reentering the workforce, after three years of retirement, gave her something meaningful to do, and reconnect with co-workers that she considers family. She also feels uniquely positioned to offer advice to individuals who are about to enter the police academy. "It's really rewarding for me to process a police officer's applicant file, because of my experience as a police officer, I can impart some advice, having my background," she said.

Ms. Dorsett started out in banking, as a bank teller and then a loan manager, and after almost 20 years, she decided to become a police officer and joined the Department. "I always admired police officers, I don't have any law enforcement family members or anything like that, but I wanted to change. There was an officer who did off-duty security at the bank, and he suggested that I give it a try. As a loan manager, I wore the three-piece suit and heels, so definitely it was a big adjustment to become a police officer. But I can say that it was a field that I had always been interested in, so it was a good fit for me," Ms. Dorsett said.

She retired in February 2017, with the rank of Sergeant, and then in June 2020, started working as an Investigative Specialist. "Being in law enforcement was my comfort zone, because I did it for 25 years, and working in this

Department, I had a lot of pleasant memories, and that's why I chose to come back. The people I knew from my time here, they have been very welcoming. As a police officer, I was around civilian personnel a lot, I know that they support our officers, and that we need each other, so now working in this capacity, I've seen both sides, and that sense of comradery, of family, is still strong."

Her co-worker, Mr. Dixon, joined the Department in September 1995. In the late 90s, Mr. Dixon and Ms. Dorsett worked together, for three years, patrolling Carol City for the Department. "Whoever thought that we would come back full circle, working together again after all those years?" Mr. Dixon said.

He said that growing up in Liberty City, he witnessed a lot of tension between police and his community, and lived through the "McDuffie Riots" and other incidents that drew widespread protests. "I didn't just read about it or see it in news, I actually lived it, the Miami-Dade community went through terrible experiences, in its relationship with the police department. Changes needed to be made, and that's what made me say 'you know, I can do this.'"

He retired in January 2022, as a Sergeant. He said he enjoyed his brief retirement, did a little traveling, spent time with his grandchildren, and did things around the house. He had a part-time job as a security contractor for the U.S. Marshals Service, in which he did court security. But Mr. Dixon felt that he still had something to give back to the Department. He felt that he had more to offer, so he came back, first as a reserve officer in 2023, and then in January 2024, as an Investigative Specialist.

"I wanted to give back to young officers, tell them about how they should conduct themselves and understand the consequences of interactions with people, and how to stay safe, that's what brought me back."

"If you spent a lot of years in a place, you'll develop a lot of friends. They're always joking with me, saying stuff like 'wow, it's noisy around here again, JD must be back,'" Mr. Dixon said.

# Professional Staffer Has Been Longtime Football Coach, And Mentor to Young Men

By Brian Ballou

Personnel Technician Hector Rodriguez Jr.'s life journey is one of unselfishness and compassion, rooted in his own experience growing up. As a former high school football player who became a coach and mentor, he understands the challenges young men face and the importance of having positive role models in their lives.

During his years playing high school football, in the late 80s, he would volunteer his time after practice to help coach a youth football team at a local park. Instead of heading straight home to eat and rest after practice, he would walk over to the park to teach 12 and 13-year-olds. The head coach of that youth football team was more than a mentor to him, he was like a father.

"I wanted to give back to the program there, I think that was one of my callings early, because the guy who made a difference in my life, who I consider my dad, he was my first coach, he is still in my life, he was the person who first got me into coaching," Mr. Rodriguez said. "My dad wasn't around, so he filled that void for me."

Mr. Rodriguez learned a lot from the coach, not just about sports but about life, and those lessons he has applied to the a new generation of young men. After Mr. Rodriguez finished high school, he played football in college and then returned home, where he worked for the Miami-Dade Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation for seven years. During that time, he secured his first high school football coaching job, at Miami Christian High School.

One of his players was a kid that he had coached at the park. The student's parents could not afford to keep up with the school's tuition, so the student was in danger of having his enrollment dropped and losing his position with the team. After learning of the player's situation, Mr. Rodriguez walked into the school's headmaster's office and requested that his coaching stipend be used to pay for the player's tuition. The student eventually graduated, went to college, earned a degree, and is now gainfully employed.

"One of the privileges that I have is when kids come back, and we don't talk about football, we talk about life, marriage, kids," Mr. Rodriguez said. "That's where you see the coaching part really make a difference. I tell my kids even now at the high school, that my relationship with them goes beyond football, you can pick up the phone and call me whenever you want, I tell them that all the time."

Mr. Rodriguez has been an assistant coach for the Belen Jesuit Preparatory School varsity football team for the last nine years. During the season, weekends are for film study and coaching meetings to prepare for the next week's practice. The game plans are then integrated into the week's practice. Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays the team practices in their full gear, and Thursdays they go through a light practice, walking through their plays to

make sure that everyone has a full understanding. Fridays are game days, and then the cycle repeats. Mr. Rodriguez said his coaching duties take about 15-20 hours of his time every week during the season.

"I really enjoy coaching, and seeing how the players learn about life through football. That's the most important thing," Mr. Rodriguez said.



*Personnel Technician Hector Rodriguez Jr. has been coaching football his entire adult life. He is now an assistant coach with the Belen Jesuit Preparatory School Varsity Football team. (photos provided by Mr. Rodriguez)*



# Midwest District Officer and Police Dispatcher Helping Homeless Woman

By Brian Ballou



*Maria Garcia (left) recently reunited with Midwest District Police Officer Leo Cantave (center), and Police Dispatcher Nicole Sears (right). (photo by Brian Ballou)*

Maria Garcia's faded navy blue 1999 Ford Econoline van is spacious, but it is packed with everything she owns, and there is hardly any room for her to sleep in it. The van has been her home for the past two years, after she lost her security job and could not afford to pay rent in her small apartment in the Fontainebleau neighborhood. She sleeps overnight in parking lots, and spends her days in a local park, where she has befriended a tiny squirrel she named Pepo, who likes to burrow in her lap.

Midwest District Officer Leo Cantave met Ms. Garcia in May 2023, during his rounds in the area with the Neighborhood Resource Unit. A week before Christmas, he saw her again. She was standing by her van, in a shopping center parking lot, and an elderly man was giving her van a jump start. Officer Cantave and Ms. Garcia chatted briefly, and during their conversation, he asked her where she lives. Ms. Garcia, who is 60, responded, "Out of my van." Once her van started, Officer Cantave led her to a local automotive store to buy her a new battery. On the way there, he stopped at a gas station to fill up her tank. At the store, the owner gave her a battery for free.

Later in the day, Officer Cantave was chatting with Police Dispatcher Nicole Sears, who works in the Department's Communications Bureau. In her job, she relays details of emergency calls to responding officers. Officer Cantave got to know her, and many of the Police Dispatchers, because they work together so often. And he also knew that she and her coworkers in the Bureau have a long history of helping people in the community. The Department's Dispatchers and Police Complaint Officers, who receive

emergency calls directly from the public, have used their own funds to feed the homeless, and provide care packages containing food and clothing, to local families during holidays. They have hand-knitted caps and blankets for children at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, and the Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital. In the wake of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, they sent care packages to their counterparts in New York City.

Officer Cantave told Police Dispatcher Sears that he had run into a homeless woman who could use some help to get back on her feet. Police Dispatcher Sears suggested that they start a GoFundMe account for Ms. Garcia, who was born in Cuba and emigrated to the U.S. at age 26. The account was set up on the day after Christmas. More than \$1,000 came in, most of it from Officer Cantave and Police Dispatcher Sears and her cousin. It was enough money to provide Ms. Garcia with cash for groceries, gas, clothes, and renew her van registration. The money also paid for a post office box for six months so that Ms. Garcia could have a return address for job applications she was filling out, and towards renewing her security license so that she could get temporary jobs as a security guard at office buildings. Officer Cantave and Police Dispatcher Sears are also helping Ms. Garcia secure Section Eight housing for low-income and homeless individuals.

"I just love helping people, that's my nature, and God blessed me, I have a good job that allows me to provide, and if I can help out somebody, then I'll do it," said Officer Cantave.

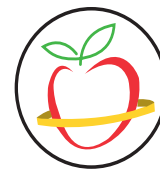
He and Police Dispatcher Sears recently visited Ms. Garcia at the park, and she gave both of them big hugs when she saw them.

"I love them, they are angels, they are my angels," Ms. Garcia said. "They didn't have to do what they did for me, I am so grateful for them. It's hard when you don't have a job or money. I cried so many times inside this van, alone."

Police Dispatcher Sears said she is now looking into a way to establish a non-profit business, to create a way to help out other people in similar situations. "I'm really glad that we were able to help her out, and I asked my husband (MDPD Officer Andre Sears) what he thought about my creating a non-profit to benefit other homeless families, on a case-by-case basis, and he loved the idea, so that's what I'm trying to put together now," she said. She even has a tentative name for the organization - "Blue Hearts of South Florida."

"We are both children of officers, and we are following the examples they set, to work hard, do our jobs the best we can, and be compassionate."

# The WELLNESS CORNER



## BOBS Peer Support Program (Backing Our Brothers and Sisters in Blue)

### DID YOU KNOW?

The Miami-Dade Police Department (MDPD) has a peer support team dedicated to serving the needs of both sworn and civilian employees. The BOBS team is a volunteer-based program staffed by MDPD personnel interested in providing emotional support, guidance, and assistance to other employees in need. Peer advocates remain and function in their current assignments; however, they are voluntarily on-call for MDPD employees in need of assistance. This responsibility requires a high level of trust and the commitment to comply with Florida Statute 111.09 on confidentiality and privileged information.

### WHAT DO THE PEER ADVOCATES DO?

Peer Advocates are specially trained to empathically communicate with personnel who may need assistance in dealing with personal or professional difficulties. Their training consists of a deeper understanding of mental health, crisis management, and debriefing skills. A Peer Advocate possesses integrity, exceptional listening skills, and sound judgment. They assist the Psychological Services Section (PSS) with critical incident debriefs and departmental outreach. Outreach allows for opportunities to meet peers and clinicians, while providing information on overall mental wellness. The PSS team provides specialized training and serves as consultants to the BOBS team when someone needs specialized or clinical services. Peer Advocates are essential in growing the departmental reach for information and support, providing a safe space for all employees.

### WHAT ARE CURRENT BOBS TEAM MEMBERS SAYING?

"I am grateful to be there for our officers in their time of need. Our role is not one of a therapist or problem solver. We are quality listeners who facilitate an emotionally supportive environment for our officers to normalize and validate their feelings. Empathy, non-judgment, and patience are key attributes for our peer advocates to have

in order to assist officers who are overwhelmed."

– Daniel

"One of my most memorable experiences as a peer was the Surfside tragedy. It was the first introduction of our program to our department. Our police brothers and sisters were able to understand our meaning and our purpose. We are the 'boots on the ground' and the liaison for our PSS. It allowed the officers to talk in a safe space where there is no judgment or criticism, and they could freely express their hurt and pain. Whether it was a refreshing break for those at an intersection to rest their feet, or a bottle of water and a meal break, or a shoulder to cry on for those who were involved in the recovery of the remains, the officers realized we were there for them. Every once in a while, we need a 'sheepdog' to protect us from, not the outside wolves, but the inside ones."

– Isabel

"Being a peer means being able to listen to a fellow co-worker tell me something that is bothering them without judgment. Being a peer gives me the opportunity to not only listen but to help when I am needed, without mishandling someone's deepest pain or issue. My experiences within the program have been few since I am rather new, but I can definitely say peers are necessary for the betterment of an officer's mental health. I can remember responding to one of the districts after Cesar 'Echy' Echaverry was killed. As I sat with our PSS clinicians and spoke with some of the officers, there was a heavy sadness in the room. Being able to give officers a space to express their thoughts and feelings was therapeutic for me as well. More than anything, being a peer is about letting my brothers and sisters in brown know that they are not alone. It's completely okay to be scared and cry sometimes. Being able to know we can lean on each other

*Continued on page 9*



## BOBS Peer Support Program . . . *Continued from page 8*

when times get tough gives us a sense of togetherness.”  
– Shantea

“I am so proud to be a part of the Miami-Dade Police Department’s ‘Backing our Brothers and Sisters’ peer advocate program. As a branch of the MDPD PSS, the BOBS program stands as an additional beacon of support within our department. Through this program, we provide invaluable assistance to fellow officers grappling with personal and professional challenges. I am truly honored to have an opportunity to be there for my fellow officers, to offer a compassionate ear, a nonjudgmental space, and resources to seek mental health support. Witnessing the positive impact our program has, especially during critical moments like the Surfside building collapse, reinforced the importance of our work. Our impact has been tremendous. It fills me with a profound sense of pride and purpose knowing that the BOBS team is making a difference in the lives of our fellow officers, their families, and through vicarious means, the community at large.”

– Matthew

“Being a member of the ‘BOBS’ team continues to be one of the most fulfilling experiences of my law enforcement career. It reminds me of the true meaning of service. The daily challenges in the life of someone working in law enforcement, whether you’re sworn or a civilian professional, can be overwhelming at times. The regular day-to-day personal stressors of life and family are compounded with the stressors of job expectations. You are expected to be strong, regardless of circumstance. You are the one with the answers, the resources, the solutions. You are expected to always know the right

thing to say to put everyone at ease and to save the day. From the moment the call taker receives that distress call, the dispatcher dispatches the call, and the officer responds to the scene, that person in need perceives that help is on the way. But who do you go to when things just aren’t right, when you’re feeling a little off your game? We wear an ‘S’ on our chest and a mask of ‘I’m okay’ on our face. We go from call to call, encouraging others that tomorrow will be a better day, reminding parents that it takes a village and reassuring communities that we are here to ‘bridge the gap’ and build relationships; all while trying to silence the noise of our hearts pounding in our chest. As peers we can connect from a place of experience. We see you. We’ve been there and we can relate. We will meet you where you are. We are a part of that village. Our goal is to give you a non-judgmental safe space to unload, to normalize what you’re feeling and allow you to come from behind the mask. We are an extended arm to an amazing group of licensed clinicians who are here to help, guide, and support you through those times of need. We are the BOBS team and backing our brothers and sisters is what we do.

– Angela

### HOW CAN I LEARN MORE?

The PSS will be facilitating a 40-hour Peer Support Training the week of April 22, 2024. We are looking forward to recruiting enthusiastic and empathic personnel willing to give of their time and heart to help others. For more information on the BOBS Peer Support Program, please call (305) 591-1106.

**Options, services  
and hope for crime survivors.**

***HOW WOULD YOU HELP?***

**NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS’ RIGHTS**



Office for Victims of Crime  
**OVC**



Help is Available



## HUMAN TRAFFICKING IS CLOSE TO HOME

Learn more at [miamidade.Gov/humantrafficking](https://miamidade.gov/humantrafficking)



Human trafficking hotline at 1-888-373-7888 or text help to 233733

# OPERATIONAL SHIELD



*Devotional*

*Miami-Dade Police Department  
Auditorium*

*The Second Tuesday of every month.  
9:00m a.m. - 10:00 a.m.*

*Any questions please contact: Officer Carla G. de Garcia 305-281-0760*





# Recent Retirements

MDPD recently said farewell to 26 employees (10 sworn officers and 16 professional staff) who retired after periods of service ranging from 36 to 9 years. Director Stephanie V. Daniels, the Department's Command Staff, and the entire MDPD family wish our colleagues many, many years of happy retirement.

## Sworn

Sergeant Domenico G. Cella .....	26
Sergeant Serena Wright Colbourne .....	34
Sergeant Roberto Gill .....	30
Sergeant Closel Pierre .....	26
Sergeant Grisell Santiyani .....	30
Officer Jose Almaguer .....	30
Officer Daryl L. Brown .....	13
Officer Isabel Garcia-Reguera .....	18
Officer Raymond Gomez .....	29
Officer Raymond Taboada .....	30

## Professional Staff

Police Complaint Supervisor 2 Ellen Accola .....	25
Public Service Aide Anquette C. Allen .....	30
Imaging Records Technician Addie M. Bennett .....	29
School Crossing Guard Jacquelin Forbes .....	24
School Crossing Guard Jeanet Goordeen .....	33
School Crossing Guard Elisha D. Hale.....	30
Stenographic Reporter Gail L. Hunkiar .....	35
Criminalist Supervisor Jacqueline E. Leith .....	25
Secretary Magali I. Perez .....	34
School Crossing Guard Martha Ruz Parra .....	9
Police Crime Analysis Specialist 1 Yamile Rodriguez-Cobas .....	23
Police Crime Analysis Specialist 1 Diana S. Rodriguez.....	26
Police Dispatcher Alexis Sallano.....	30
Court Support Specialist Angela Staton .....	36
Senior Office Support Specialist Sandra Tanner.....	35
School Crossing Guard Josefina Valladares.....	10





The Miami-Dade Police Department and OneBlood held successful blood drives at the Miami-Dade Police Department Headquarters on January 11, 2024, and March 14, 2024. Special thanks are extended to the donors listed below for helping save lives!

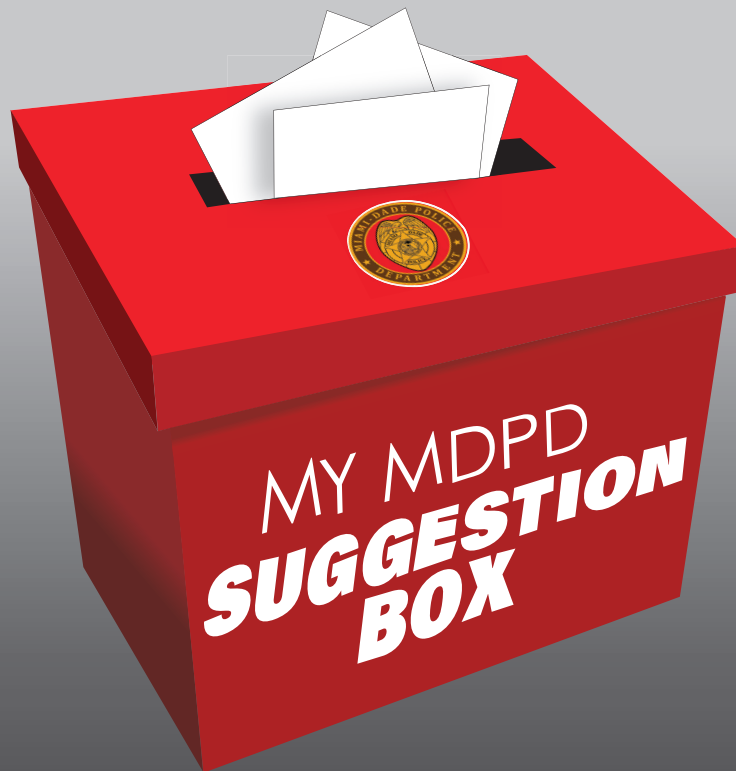
Captain Alejandro Acosta  
Captain Lonny R. Allen  
Captain Luis M. Poveda  
Lieutenant Miguel A. Reyes  
Lieutenant Olenka Ryan-Guerra  
Lieutenant Jeffrey S. Schmidinger  
Sergeant Erin M. Alfonso  
Sergeant Keith J. Morris Jr.  
Sergeant Ronald Perez  
Sergeant Petra R. Reeves-Evans  
Officer Ernest D. Bandiera  
Officer Argemis Colome  
Officer Luis M. Llanes  
Officer Brittany L. Lozada  
Officer Giovanni M. Marrero Portela  
Officer Luis J. Sierra  
Criminalist 2 Christopher R. Barr  
Secretary Tracy L. Cardentey  
Secretary Gianna Daisy De La O  
Police Crime Scene Technician Jasson J. Felix  
Secretary Corin N. Gaffney  
Digital Evidence Supervisor Heather H. Garay  
School Crossing Guard Cristina M. Garcia

Secretary Sei Y Luo  
Public Service Aide Sheila Marquez  
Criminalist 1 Jocelyn M. Martinez  
Police Legal Advisor Manager Erik Morales  
Secretary Laura V. Pena  
Public Service Aide Teresita D. Rivera  
Secretary Yvonne D. Rodriguez  
Investigative Specialist Rodrigo A. Sepulveda  
Criminalist 1 Riol Suarez  
Police Legal Advisor Alyssa Vazquez  
Criminalist 2 Erin M. Wilson  
Mr. Estaban Aguila  
Mr. Santiago Aroca  
Mr. Alexander Baker  
Mr. Simon Duran  
Mr. Cesar Echaverry  
Mr. Orestes Martinez  
Mr. Johnny Patino  
Mr. Rolando Prieto  
Mr. Xavier Prude  
Mr. Darren Scott  
Ms. Cynthia Stanley



# Thank You Blood Donors!





# MDPD WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Ideas are the basis of progress. Share your ideas to further develop, innovate, and fuel your MDPD.

The Suggestion Box application is now online through the MDPD portal, Popular Links.  
This application is not an avenue for complaints.



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Vol. 40, No. 1

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