

# **SOUTH MIAMI POLICE DEPARTMENT**

## *2018 Annual Report*



**RENÉ G. LANDA**  
**CHIEF OF POLICE**



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## **ANNUAL REPORT PRODUCED UNDER THE DIRECTION OF:**

Chief René Landa

## **CHARTS, GRAPHS & LAYOUTS:**

Lisa Corbin

## **PHOTOGRAPHY:**

Various department members



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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 EMULATE, 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 SERVE THE PUBLIC AND PROTECT LIFE AND PROPERTY WITH DIGNITY, HONOR AND PRIDE.**

## **CORE VALUES**

**EXCELLENCE, INTEGRITY AND INCLUSION**



## **OATH OF HONOR**

**ON MY HONOR,  
I WILL NEVER BETRAY MY BADGE,  
MY INTEGRITY, MY CHARACTER,  
OR THE PUBLIC TRUST.  
I WILL ALWAYS HAVE  
THE COURAGE TO HOLD MYSELF  
AND OTHERS ACCOUNTABLE FOR OUR ACTIONS.  
I WILL ALWAYS UPHOLD THE CONSTITUTION,  
MY COMMUNITY AND THE AGENCY I SERVE.**

# CHIEF'S MESSAGE

On behalf of the City of South Miami Police Department, it gives me great pleasure to present to you the 2018 Annual Report, highlighting the accomplishments of an outstanding year. As another year has come and gone, I am reminded of what it truly means to be a public servant. Our community entrusts us to make our streets of South Miami safe and in this last year, I believe we succeeded in our mission to serve and protect members of our community, doing so with professionalism, integrity, commitment and respect.

Within the last year, I have seen the many positive strides our department has made because of the dedication of our employees, the commitment of City administration, the elected officials and most importantly the partnership and support of our citizens that helped us achieve our crime prevention goals.

Consequently, policing has always been and will be about the people. It is an honor and a privilege to be the Chief of Police for the South Miami Police Department where bridges between the public and our officers have resulted in so many positive accomplishments over the last few years. This is why, more than ever, building strong relationships based upon genuine trust between residents and law enforcement is essential in order for us to build a better tomorrow.

Over this last year, South Miami has seen a 22% drop in reported crime. In 2018, the total number of reported crimes was at the lowest it has been in twenty years. It is through the hard work of every police officer and civilian employee of the department, combined with the partnership of the public we serve, that this impact on crime has been achieved.

As crime in the city has decreased, our agency acknowledges the importance and benefits of communities and police working together, sharing information and developing collaborative strategies. As the service we provide has increased, our performance and professionalism continues to stay strong. Our agency constantly strives to reach out to the public we serve whether responding to calls for service, completing park and walks or through community activities for adults and children. Our **CAST (Cops and Students Talking)** program brings students and officers together in a positive environment to build important bridges for today and the future.

Through other positive interactions with residents and business owners such as; **Coffee with a Cop** or our annual **Halloween Safe Streets**, we bring citizens and officers together in a relaxed and festive atmosphere, a sort of common ground. We are fortunate to have **Neighborhood Resource Officers** who work to confront problems in different neighborhoods; our **Police Athletic League** works with our

# CHIEF'S MESSAGE

neighborhood youth to build a better community and our police command staff are assigned specific geographic sections of the city so they can personally reach out to residents to address any concerns as part of our **“Own a Zone”** program. We continue with our **Staff Walks** in areas where problems have been identified, going door to door distributing crime prevention information and making those face to face encounters to address any citizen concerns. Our **Downtown Walking Beat Officer** adds an additional Resource to our business community and the shoppers that visit our city.



Chief René G. Landa

As we move into the new year, we will continue to work one on one with our community so that we can identify where the problems exist in order to provide and implement our solutions. In collaboration with our community we will continue to build and sustain a culture in policing that values transparency, accountability and community engagement, as well as, increasing community trust.

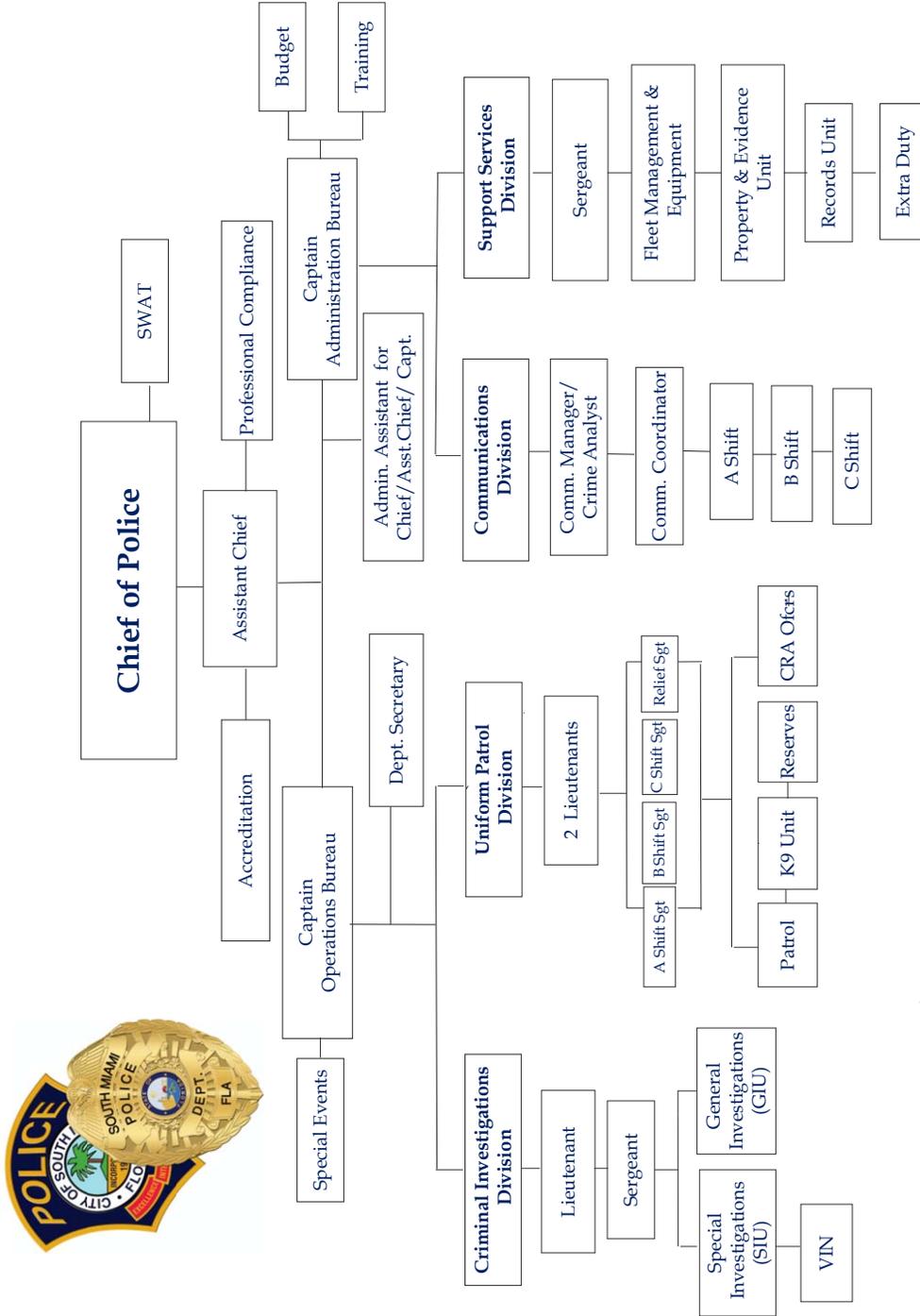
The dedicated men and women of the South Miami Police Department have taken an oath to “Protect and Serve” our community each and every day. Their dedication and commitment to all the people that live, work and play in our city has been above reproach and has made a difference in people’s lives. I couldn’t be more proud of the men and women of the South Miami Police Department who conducted themselves professionally and became even more accessible to our residents, merchants and visitors. We are the ultimate “servants of the people”, and our mission to respond to their needs is of paramount importance.

*“Police Officers take risks and secure the safety of fellow citizens and they endure such risks and tolerate such inconvenience on behalf of strangers. Consequently, police work is one of the more noble and selfless occupations in society. Making a difference in the quality of life is an opportunity that policing provides and few other profession can offer”. - International Association of Chiefs of Police*

Sincerely,

Chief René G. Landa

# ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



ORGANIZATIONAL CHART  
Revised January 2018



# COMMAND STAFF



Chief René G. Landa  
Chief of Police



Asst. Chief Louis Fata  
Assistant Chief of Police



Capt. Larry Corbin  
Operations Captain



Capt. John Barzola  
Administrative Captain



Lt. Jesus Aguiar  
Criminal Investigations Division

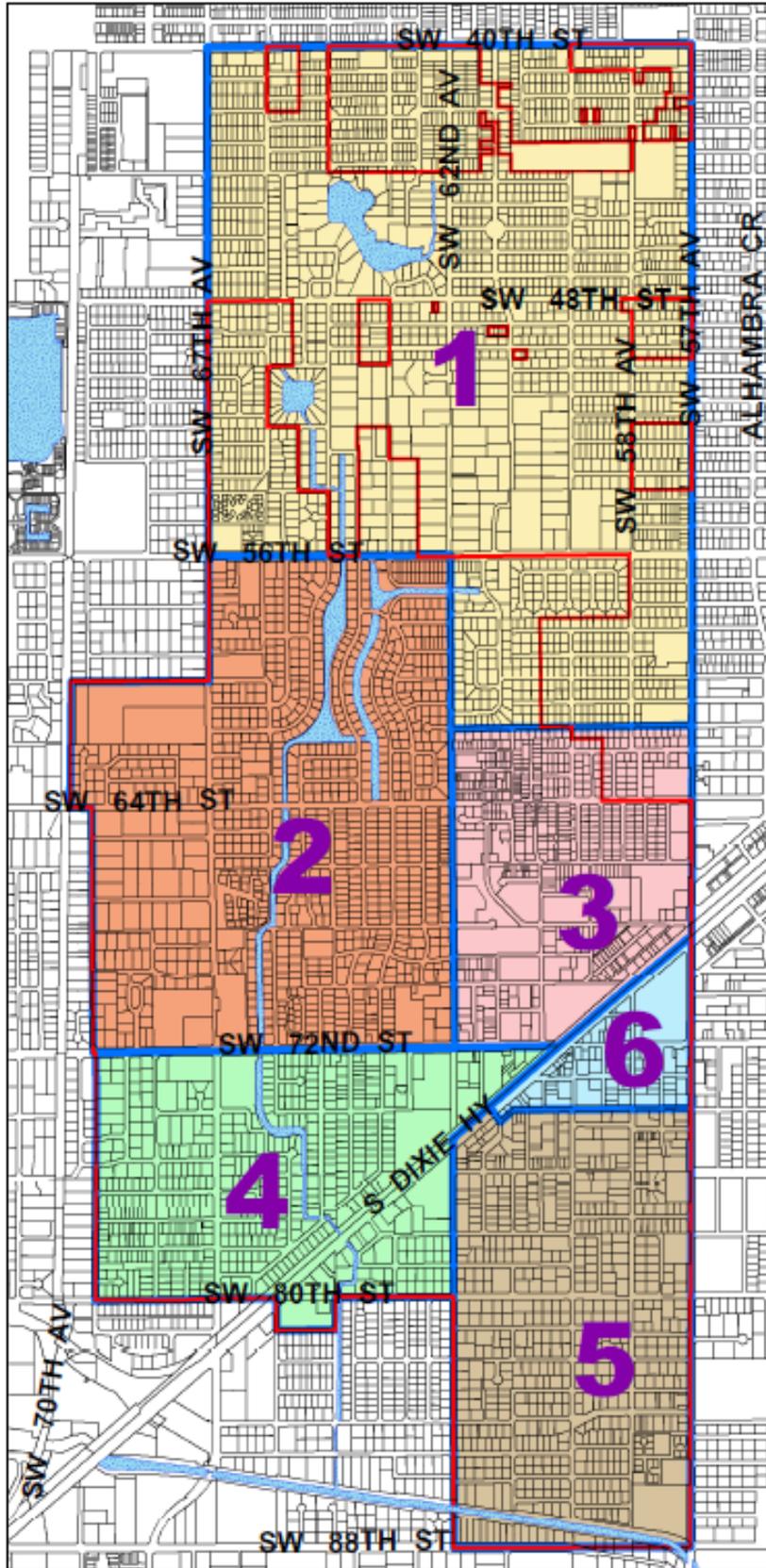


Lt. Junior Vijil  
Patrol Division



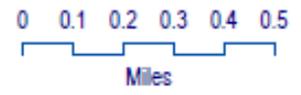
Lt. Robert Bukens  
Patrol Division

# POLICE ZONES



City of  
South Miami

## POLICE ZONES



South Miami  
Police Department  
6130 SW 72 Street  
South Miami, FL 33143

Emergency  
Telephone Number  
911

South Miami Police  
Telephone Number  
(305) 663-6301

Criminal Investigations  
(305) 663-6322  
*to contact a detective  
once a police report  
has already been filed.*

Drug Tip Line  
(305) 663-6303  
*citizens having information  
concerning narcotics  
possession and/or sales.*

# ANNUAL COMPARISON



**CRIME IN FLORIDA ABSTRACT**  
**South Miami Police Department**  
**January - December 2018**

Florida Department of  
 Law Enforcement

(UNVERIFIED - SUBMITTED DATA FOR REVIEW)

The statistics presented in this release are an indication of crime and criminal activities known to, and reported by, law enforcement agencies for 2018. This report reflects data residing in the UCR database as of 2/1/2019.

**Crime Volume and Rate**

MEASURE	2017	2018	Percent Change
<b>Total Index Crime</b>	<b>678</b>	<b>528</b>	<b>-22.1</b>
Total Violent Crime	59	41	-30.5
Total Property Crime	619	487	-21.3
<b>Total Crime Rate</b>	<b>5,361.8</b>	<b>4,169.3</b>	<b>-22.2</b>
Violent Crime Rate	466.6	323.8	-30.6
Property Crime Rate	4,895.2	3,845.5	-21.4

**Arrest Totals**

ARREST TYPE	2017	2018	Percent Change
<b>Violent Offense Arrests</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>-8.0</b>
Adult	23	22	-4.3
Juvenile	2	1	-50.0
Male	18	18	0.0
Female	7	5	-28.6
<b>Property Offense Arrests</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>-3.8</b>
Adult	45	47	4.4
Juvenile	8	4	-50.0
Male	42	44	4.8
Female	11	7	-36.4
<b>Part II Offense Arrests</b>	<b>207</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>-17.4</b>
Adult	197	167	-15.2
Juvenile	10	4	-60.0
Male	157	121	-22.9
Female	50	50	0.0
<b>TOTAL ARRESTS</b>	<b>285</b>	<b>245</b>	<b>-14.0</b>

**Offense Totals**

INDEX OFFENSES	2017	2018	Percent Change
<b>Murder</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	
Firearm	0	0	
Knife/Cutting Instr.	0	0	
Hands/Fists/Feet	0	0	
Other	0	0	
<b>Rape</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>-40.0</b>
Firearm	0	0	
Knife/Cutting Instr.	0	0	
Hands/Fists/Feet	2	2	0.0
Other	3	1	-66.7
<b>Robbery</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>44.4</b>
Firearm	4	5	25.0
Knife/Cutting Instr.	2	2	0.0
Hands/Fists/Feet	2	6	200.0
Other	1	0	-100.0
<b>Aggravated Assault</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>-44.4</b>
Firearm	11	4	-63.6
Knife/Cutting Instr.	4	5	25.0
Hands/Fists/Feet	21	14	-33.3
Other	9	2	-77.8
<b>Burglary</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>-24.2</b>
Forced Entry	50	29	-42.0
No Forced Entry	58	51	-12.1
Attempted Entry	12	11	-8.3
<b>Larceny</b>	<b>473</b>	<b>375</b>	<b>-20.7</b>
Pocket Picking	29	11	-62.1
Purse Snatching	8	1	-87.5
Shoplifting	91	75	-17.6
From Motor Vehicle	127	130	2.4
Motor Vehicle Parts	30	16	-46.7
Bicycles	7	13	85.7
From Building	19	7	-63.2
From Coin Oper. Dev.	0	0	
All Other	162	122	-24.7
<b>Motor Vehicle Theft</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>-19.2</b>
<b>TOTAL INDEX OFFENSES</b>	<b>678</b>	<b>528</b>	<b>-22.1</b>

**Domestic Violence by Offense Type**

PRIMARY OFFENSE	2017	2018	Percent Change
Murder	0	0	
Manslaughter	0	0	
Rape	0	0	
Fondling	0	0	
Aggravated Assault	9	8	-11.1
Aggravated Stalking	0	0	
Simple Assault	50	23	-54.0
Threat/Intimidation	0	1	
Simple Stalking	0	0	
<b>TOTAL OFFENSES</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>-45.8</b>

**Property Information Values**

PROPERTY TYPE	STOLEN VALUE	RECOVERED VALUE
Currency, Note, Etc.	73,032	17
Jewelry, Precious Metals	846,875	80
Clothing & Furs	54,537	416
Motor Vehicles	550,831	231,330
Office Equipment	105,447	9,429
TVs, Radios, Stereos	20,756	226
Firearms	5,865	435
Household Goods	15,696	10,000
Consumable Goods	1,389	812
Livestock	0	0
Miscellaneous	300,538	8,575
<b>TOTAL VALUES</b>	<b>1,974,966</b>	<b>261,320</b>

SOURCE: Florida Department of Law Enforcement. Florida Uniform Crime Report, 2018 [Computer program]. Tallahassee, FL: FDLE, Florida Statistical Analysis Center.

# UNIFORM CRIME REPORTS

Crime in the City of South Miami is down 22%. This is due to the hard work every man and woman in the Department, sworn and non-sworn.

There has been a general trending down of crime in many cities, but the overall rate in South Miami is down about 40 percent since 2013.

Watch orders, zone flushes, and other crime suppression details are vital in keeping crime low. Proper crime analysis by Patrol and CID help identify where crime is occurring and pointing the right assets to confront the problems early on.

Source: 2017 US Census of Population

Population: 12,281

Demographic Breakdown: White 76.1%

Black 15.2%

Asian 3.7%

Hispanic Origin: Hispanic 53.4%

Non Hispanic 26.2%

Climate: Subtropical

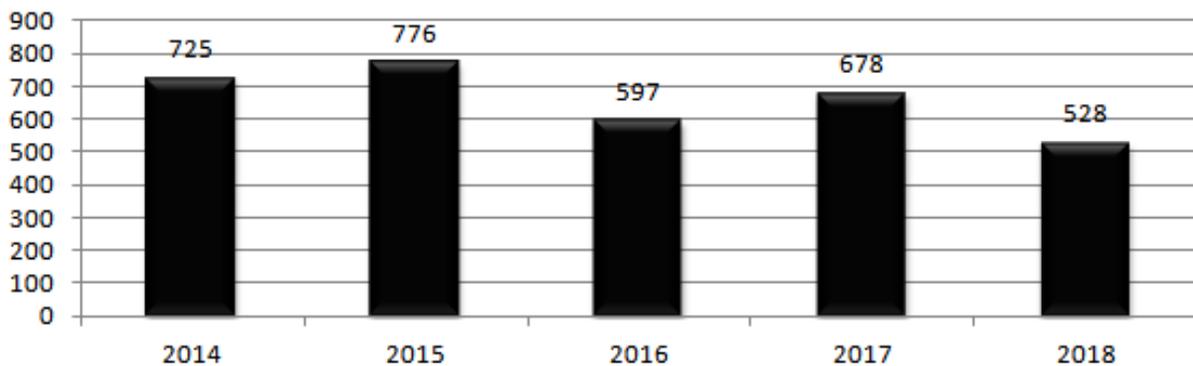
Yearly Average Temp: 84.3

Land Area: 2.27 sq miles

Employees: Sworn 49

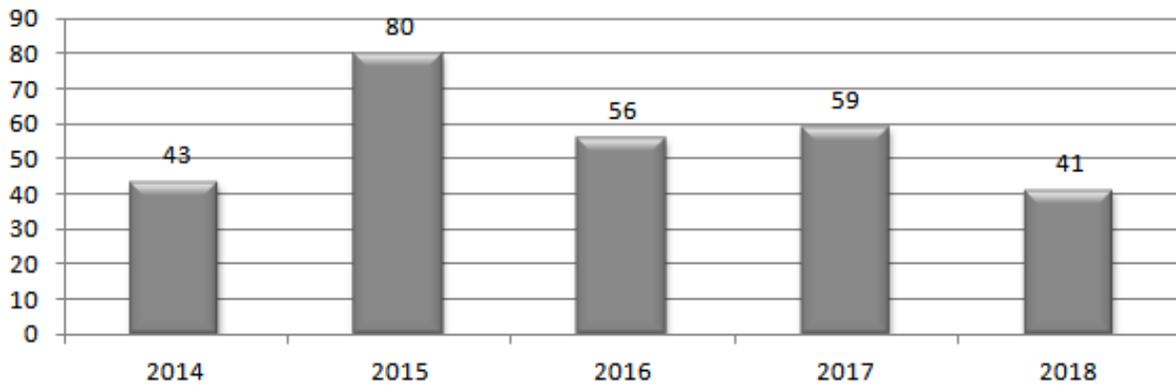
Civilian 9

## TOTAL REPORTED OFFENSES

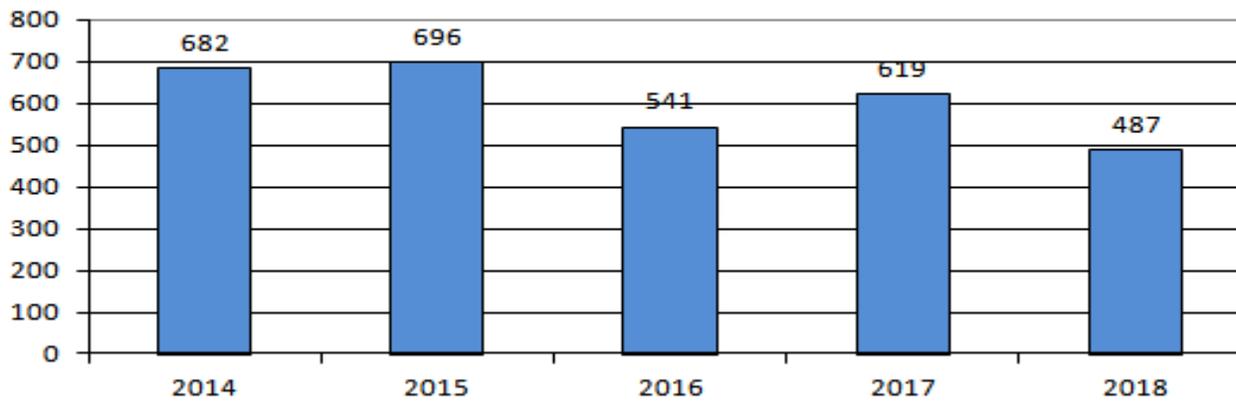


# UNIFORM CRIME REPORTS

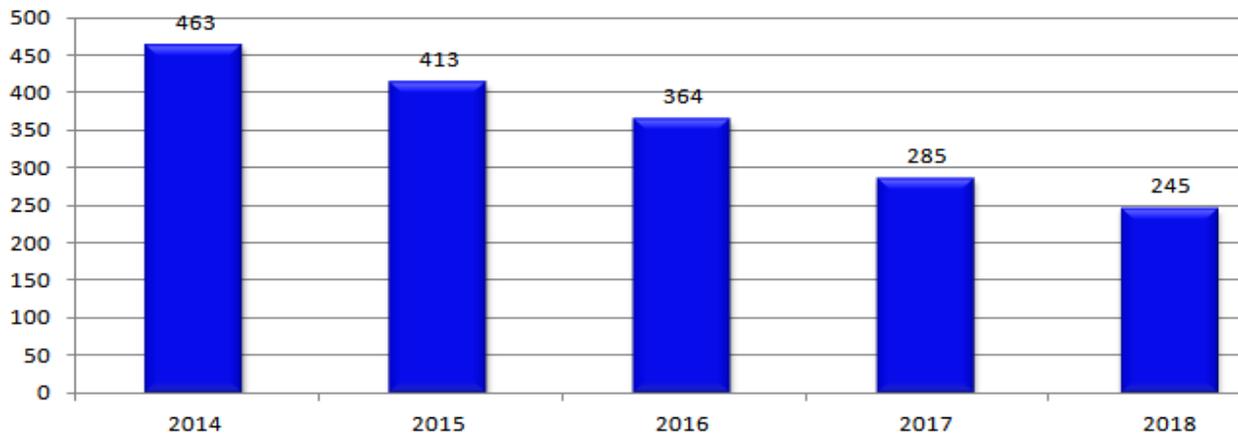
## VIOLENT CRIMES



## NON-VIOLENT CRIMES



## ARRESTS



# ACCREDITATION



Reviewing Standards for Compliance



Reviewing Quarterly Audits Reports



Asst. Chief Louis Fata

The South Miami Police Department has been an accredited agency for the last five years with the Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation (C.F.A.). This prestigious certification is only given to police departments that have demonstrated they uphold the highest standards of professionalism in law enforcement. The Accreditation Unit is responsible to see that the Police Department succeeds in passing its initial on-site assessment, as well as ensuring that it continues these practices to maintain that status with inspections every three years.

The Accreditation process requires continual training courses and meetings, gathering information of current and future standards, and ensuring that the Police Department is running its day to day operations in compliance with its own policies and procedures, State of Florida Laws and under the professional guidelines and standards set by the C.F.A.

The Accreditation Unit is tasked with maintaining all files needed to prove compliance with the Commission standards. These are presented during in depth C.F.A. on-site inspections where:

- Officers are interviewed
- Facilities inspected, and
- The overall operations of the Department are put “under the microscope.”

The Accreditation Unit worked vigorously alongside the men and women of the South Miami Police Department toward the goal of making this one of the best law enforcement agencies in Florida, in order to better serve the citizens and visitors of the City of South Miami.

The South Miami Police Department will again come up for reaccreditation in 2019.

# PROFESSIONAL COMPLIANCE



Sgt. Lisa King

The Professional Compliance Unit is tasked with investigating complaints involving either a violation of the law or Departmental policy by the members of the agency:

- Internal Affairs Investigations are assigned to the Professional Compliance Unit
- Personnel Complaints are violations of a minor degree that are assigned to first line supervisors
- Contact Reports are citizen complaints of service that do not involve either a violation of law or Departmental Policy
- Use of Force Reports are documented uses of force by officers when met with resistance by an arrestee

The Unit is also tasked with examining the background of candidates for employment with the Department in either sworn or non-sworn positions.

The numbers of cases examined by the Unit for January through December 2018 are listed below;

<b>Internal Affairs Investigations</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Personnel Complaints Assigned</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Contact Reports Processed</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Use of Force Reports</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Backgrounds Conducted</b>	<b>20</b>

# UNIFORM PATROL



Capt. Larry Corbin



Lt. Junior Vijil



Lt. Robert Bukens

The Uniform Patrol Division is the largest division within the South Miami Police Department. It is currently staffed with two Lieutenants, four Sergeants and twenty-nine Officers. The unit is responsible for handling calls for service such as the initial investigation of crimes, vehicle crashes, medical emergencies and traffic complaints. The division is also comprised of the following specialized units;

**Traffic Enforcement Unit:** The unit is currently comprised of one officer who is responsible for addressing traffic issues and complaints. Saturation details are used to enforce violations in problem areas within the City. The unit also utilizes special equipment such as radars, lasers and the traffic sentry sign to deter violations particularly within residential areas. The TEU also participated in several multi-agency task force traffic details, one of which was hosted by our agency and reviewed approximately 13,343 violations from the Red Light Camera program.

**Neighborhood Resource Officer:** This officer tends to the needs of the citizens within the CRA addressing crime, traffic and quality of life issues; attends community meetings with residents, community leaders and outreach organizations and quarterly crime watch meetings. This unit also assists with various community events such as the Annual Toy Drive for needy children, CRA Christmas Tree Lighting and Back to School “Backpack” give away.

**Downtown Walking Beat Officer:** This officer works closely with business owners, managers and employees within the downtown area with the objective to foster a relationship between these individuals and the police department. This officer handles issues and various concerns ranging from commercial vehicle delivery in a safe manner to quality of life issues such as graffiti and hazardous conditions that may exist for visitors. This officer is also in the process of building a comprehensive business profile for each business, so that the police department can have current information to better serve the business community.

# UNIFORM PATROL

## 2018 Statistical performances:

Calls for Service	11,384
Felony Arrests	65
Misdemeanor Arrests	112
Traffic Arrests	9
Traffic PTAS	399
Warrants Served	41
Traffic Citations Issued	6,363
Parking Citations Issued	407
Traffic Warnings Issued	640
Reports Written	2,879



Ofc. Tefel, Lt. Vijil, Det. J. Alvarez & Chief Landa in front the SWAT truck on display for the community



6 mos after hire, Ofc. Allen is named Officer of the Month-Dec 2018



Ofc. Roberto Tefel  
Traffic Enforcement Unit



Ofc. Melvris Lopez speaking at  
Sunset Elementary's Career Day



Ofc. Rodney Napier  
Downtown Walking Beat



K-9 Ofc. Ariel Gonzalez & his partner K-9 Jack do a demonstration for Palm Springs Elementary



Ofc. Delgado, Ofc. A. Alvarez & Det. Matt Taylor during our annual Safe Streets festivities



Ofc. Nave takes time to decorate a pumpkin with a "rookie" officer

# POLICE ATHLETIC LEAGUE



Ofc. Marcus Kinlaw

Since 2015, Officer Marcus Kinlaw has been the Executive Director of PAL– the South Miami Police Department’s Police Athletic League. He is the only one who oversees every aspect of the program and his attention to detail has made the league become very successful as it continues to grow with the support of volunteers from the community. This year Ofc. Kinlaw worked with four volunteer assistant coaches and six parent volunteers.

The kids participated in track & field, youth camps & football and they are looking to add basketball, baseball and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Math) to their yearly line up for FY 2019.

The positive impact our PAL program has made in the community is measured by the many thankful children and parents. Officer Kinlaw encourages parents who support the program to take the time out of their busy schedules to volunteer. This approach is very community oriented and completely supports PALs mission.

In 2018, 102 children ages 5 to 17 participated in track & field. They had thirteen of those children attend the Junior Olympic Trials where they competed in the first round qualifiers in Orlando, FL. Eleven children then continued to semi-finals in Rome, GA and four of those made it to finals in Greensboro, NC. Proudly, one of their kids, a nine year old female placed 1st gaining the Gold Medal Champion title in the Junior Olympics Long Jump Competition. In addition, the Grey Ghost Football Program had 30 participants for 2018. They had a 10 and 1 season making it to the Miami Xtreme Superbowl where they were ultimately defeated.



# EXPLORER POST #256



Sgt. Chris Johnson

The South Miami Police Explorer Program is sponsored by the South Miami Police Department and chartered through the Learning for Life Organization. The program provides middle school and high school students with an insight into a career in law enforcement.

In 2018, Explorer Post #256 updated their Class A & Class B Uniforms, had the Explorer center computer replaced with a more updated model, procured an annual program budget of \$12,000 as part of a city endorsed function and changed their mandatory meetings to Saturday mornings, giving them better attendance.

This program is known locally for its dedication in providing community service and for its ability to improve student's leadership skills. The Explorers participated in a variety of police & community events throughout the year. Some included the Martin Luther King Parade, Porsche Show, Rotary Club Art Show, PBA Police Memorial, Footworks 5K Run, July 4th Celebration, Walk 4 LYFE Cancer Walk, Miami Dade Chief's Dinner, Safe Streets Halloween and the Chamber South Art Show.

The Explorers participated in local competition against 18 other agencies in Dade and Broward counties. There they placed 1st in "Traffic Stops", 3rd in "In Progress", 4th in "Domestic Violence" and 5th in "Crime Scene".



# CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS



Sgt. Bartra conducts a case review with GIU & SIU detectives.



Det. Taylor, Det. Jackson & Det. Bosch compare cases with similarities



Lt. Jesus Aguiar

The Criminal Investigations Division within the South Miami Police is responsible for conducting follow-up investigations as well as special investigations as defined in Department General Order 19.1. The division is divided into two units, General Investigations and Special Investigations. While each of these units has different job descriptions, each plays an intricate role in order for the division to function effectively.

General Investigations (GIU) is responsible for conducting follow-up investigations on criminal reports against persons and property which are filed by the public and not resolved by the Uniform Patrol Division. Detectives assigned to this unit, follow-up on leads in these cases in an attempt to bring them to a successful resolution. Detectives assigned to this unit are also responsible for the collection of evidence and the processing of crime scenes.

The following were 2018 Statistical Performances for the Division;

ANNUAL REPORT SUMMARY	
Item	Amount
Cases Handled	1092
Cleared by Arrests	47
Cleared Exceptionally	108
Unfounded	78
GIU Clearance Rate	21.34%
Crime Scenes Processed	41
Money Seized (IRS Task-force)	\$912,552 Total (SM Share is \$104,486)
Narcotics Value Recovered	\$510
Property Recovered (GIU)	\$304,485
Surveillances	223
Citizens Contacted	818



Lt. Aguiar & Sgt. Bartra identify Hot Spot areas to initiate surveillance operations.

# ADMINISTRATIVE BUREAU



Capt. John Barzola



Cathy Motta  
Administrative Assistant



Celia Vicente  
Department Secretary

The Administration Bureau oversees Communications, Training and Support Services for the Police Department. The Administration Bureau is responsible for Vehicle Procurement, Special Initiatives, Budget, Records Custodian, Product Research and other ancillary services as assigned by the Chief of Police. We are tasked as the project managers for the body worn camera program and the red light camera program.

During the course of the last few years, product research was conducted into new laptops for the Patrol Section and concluded with the purchase of new GETAC ruggedized laptop computers which eliminated many issues with previous models. We have begun the transition into a SUV based model police car which provides more room for equipment and occupants. This has translated itself into purchasing hybrid vehicles with the first hybrid being purchased and introduced into the Police fleet in 2018. We have also just committed to purchasing seven hybrid police vehicles for the FY 2019, showing the Police Departments commitment to the City's vision of being environmentally conscious.

The Police Department also purchased a training simulator during 2018 which was incorporated with the training section and provides real life scenario based training. This training simulator has also been introduced to the public so police perspectives can be analyzed and understood. We have continued to incorporate online training utilizing PoliceOne.Com providing the Police Department with innovative training on contemporary issues. During the 2018 year the Police Department conducted over 5000 hours of training for its officer.

The initiatives which are currently being researched for procurement by the Police Department are thermal ruggedized printers for the patrol section, active shooter plate carriers and specialized vehicles such as drones.

# SUPPORT SERVICES



Evidence Retrieval



Off Duty Scheduling



Sgt. Darby Wagner

The Services Division is Comprised of five units; Property and Evidence, Vehicle Fleet Management, Records Management, Off Duty Coordinator, and Quartermaster.

## Property and Evidence

The mission of the South Miami Police Department's Property & Evidence Unit is to provide efficient and effective processing, storage and production of evidence for prosecution of cases. This unit also oversees disposing of evidence and personal property and adequately supplies departmental needs. Our property room is used to store items coming into our custody for use as court exhibits or safekeeping. These items are categorized and retained until the case is ready to go to court or concluded and released to the owner.

The following is the 2018 statistical performance of the Property and Evidence Unit;

<b>Impounded Items</b>	<b>397</b>
<b>Destroyed Items (no evidentiary value)</b>	<b>169</b>
<b>Returned to Owner Items</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>Turned over to City Items (donations)</b>	<b>20</b>

## Vehicle Fleet Management Unit

Manages the operation and maintenance of the organization's motor vehicles. Develops and implements vehicle and equipment preventive maintenance programs. Develops and maintains outside vendor and service provider relationships. The Fleet Manager is responsible for overseeing all maintenance and repair of departmental vehicles and related equipment. Maintains the entire fleet of vehicles for the Department, working closely with various vendors and service providers through the completion of work.

# SUPPORT SERVICES

Some of the specific duties of the Fleet Manager; staying current on vehicle recalls and warranties and coordinating the purchase process of new vehicles and equipment, also takes care of licensing and registration of each vehicle. Both newly acquired and tenured vehicles are outfitted with state of the art emergency equipment and are maintained at a condition suitable for the rigors of modern police work. This year the police department added eight new patrol vehicles including one hybrid administrative vehicle and one four wheel drive pickup truck for emergency management incidents.

## **Records Management**

The Records Unit is a controlled public service area which stores all police records and reports. The Records Unit distributes certain reports to the public and to various law enforcement agencies, such as the FBI, U.S. Secret Service, and the U.S. State Department. The Records Unit houses files pertaining to arrests, incidents, and accidents. As with other units of the South Miami Police Department, the Records Unit adheres to strict standards of confidentiality. The unit also maintains body worn camera footage and fulfills any requests for review.

## **Off-Duty Coordinator**

The Off-Duty Coordinator is responsible for the Police Department's commitment to providing service to the community for different projects. We assign officers for lane closures during construction projects, security during long-term contracts with business owners, or short-term agreements associated with events in South Miami. In addition to the scheduling and working with vendors this position also administers billing and collections efforts.

## **Quartermaster Unit**

The Police Quartermaster is responsible for the general oversight of the police department's equipment and supply function, to include, issuing equipment and other supplies to department personnel, identifying and evaluating "police specific" equipment, making equipment and supply purchases and maintaining inventory records. The Police Quartermaster also assists administrative personnel with the oversight and inventory of other department assets as needed.

# COMMUNICATIONS

CC Kinsey reviews records



CO Vargas scans paperwork



CO Velasco answers phone call



Comm. Manager Lisa Corbin



CO Solomon files paperwork



PCO Semino dispatches a call



PCO Zarling disperses information

Communications is an essential function of any police agency and is usually referred to as the nerve center. Personnel are responsible for monitoring and transmitting on various complex public safety radio frequencies and communications equipment, including radio consoles, telephones and computer systems. They operate two computer-aided dispatch systems, state & national computers, the security access system, monitor thirty-two live security feeds, greet lobby traffic and function as a records depository. They also receive and process calls from the public requesting routine police or emergency services. Here they determine the nature and location of incidents, classify the call as routine or priority and dispatch police, fire or other emergency units as necessary in accordance with established procedures.

After dispatching the initial call for service they maintain contact with all units on assignment, as well as, maintain status and location of police units. In addition, Communications Officers input and retrieve data quickly upon receiving requests from the units for information such as: vehicle registration, driving records, and warrants.

**During 2018, Communications handled/processed the below;**

Calls for Service	15,259
Repo/Tow-Ins Logged	164
Watch Order Entries	262
Mobile Name Candidate Records	14,317
Arrest Report Imports from County System	296
Background Checks Conducted totaling \$12,255	817
Deposit for Report Copying & Research Requests	\$3,988

# FOP POLICE MEMORIAL

This past May, agencies across Florida met in Tallahassee to again pay tribute to the Florida Law Enforcement Officers who died in the line of duty. The two day event provides a barbecue for Survivors & Officers, Reciting of the Names of Fallen Heroes, Evening of Remembrance Ceremony, Survivors Breakfast, Parade and the Final Ceremony in the Capitol Courtyard. Fourteen additional names were added in 2018, honoring those public servants; ten killed in the line of duty and four who were recently discovered, one dating as far back as 1918. Chief Landa was in attendance along with Lt. Bukens, Ofc. S. Hernandez and Ofc. Marin. This very somber event is a constant reminder of the dedication in keeping our community & citizens safe and to honor those who made the ultimate sacrifice.



# SPECIAL AWARDS

In October, a few of our finest were honored with special awards; Ofc. Al Alvarez received the Gold Medal of Valor for his fast thinking and quick actions when he assisted MDPD on a “suicide by cop” call. Lt. Junior Vijil received the Chief’s Award for Administrative Excellence for his work revamping the Field Training Manual and Retired Asst. Chief Mike Mills presented Chief Rene Landa an award on behalf of the Office of the Secretary of Defense/ ESGR (Employer Support of the Guard & Reserves). This “Patriotic Employer Award” was given to the Chief for supporting his employees with their reserve military leave requirements. Det. Jose Alvarez who is a USCG Reserve, nominated the Chief for this recognition.



# CEREMONIES

2018 kept Staff & employees busy with a plethora of new hires and Swear-Ins. We also witnessed the promotion of Sgt. Christopher Johnson who began here as an Explorer in 2005. He went on to become the Explorer Civilian Advisor in 2008 and from there entered the Police Academy where he graduated in 2009 becoming a full time police officer with our agency.



Chief Landa & Sgt. Johnson at promotion



Gold badge pinning by mom



L-R: Chief, Ofcs. Vokaty, Delgado & Napier



Ofc. Vokaty's wife pins his badge



Ofc. Delgado gets pinned by her sister



Ofc. Napier pinned by his daughter



Ofc. Napier's son then tries his luck



Ofc. Allen recites oath with Chief



Ofc. Allen gets a big hug by his mom



Ofc. D. Rodriguez recites oath with



Ofc. D. Rodriguez gets pinned by his dad



Ofc. F. Gonzalez recites oath with Chief



Ofc. F. Gonzalez pinned by his mom



Ofc. Nave recites the oath with Chief



Ofc. Nave poses with his husband

# MDCACP EVENT

This year our agency co-hosted the monthly Miami-Dade County Association of Chief's of Police awards dinner along with Key Biscayne, Palmetto Bay, Pinecrest and West Miami Police. Our event was held at the iconic Rusty Pelican Waterfront Restaurant in Key Biscayne. Attendees were treated to passed hors d'oeuvres, live music, open bar, a delicious three course meal, party favors, raffles and networking with peers.



# MDCACP EVENT



# COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Community involvement is a big part of Chief Landa's policing vision. Throughout the year many activities, meetings and events are held in order to show the more human side of this job. The goal is to bridge a gap between the citizens and community and present a more unified front of common ground; safety, respect and a better quality of life for all. This past year our department was involved in career days at various schools, in the Power of One Program with SMMS, a Unity Bike Ride, Safe Streets Halloween, the Mystic Force Foundation's Grand Opening, Girl Scouts Camp Out, Cafecito with a Cop, Father/Daughter Dance, Hurricane Relief Efforts, Crime Watch meetings and many different Festivals and Parades in our City.



# COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT



# FALLEN HEROES

In memory of Fallen Officer Joseph Kephart...

Sergeant Kephart died in the line of duty 42 years ago after being hit head - on in a vehicle collision while driving home from work after his tour of duty.

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



*Sergeant Joseph O. Kephart in the 70's was the Department's Supervisor of Identification, Shift Commander and the Firearms Training and Range Officer.*



Chief Landa & Capt. Corbin pose with members of the FDNY and MDPD's FF Ledesman who was a former officer with our agency.



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

Officer Schulz died in the line of duty 24 years ago after being stabbed while working an off duty job.

On October 15, 1987 Officer Schulz attempted to arrest a juvenile who was part of a gang which had been causing problems at the Bakery Centre movie theater. As he was taking the subject into custody, he was stabbed four times by the other members of the gang.

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



*Officer L. Daniel Schulz in the late 80's while assigned to the Motor Unit*

# COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

Members of the Police Department are involved in a myriad of organizations to “give back” to the community and support positive programs. Some of these are:

Rotary

Kiwanis

Local, State & International Police Chief Organizations

Cops for Kids

Alliance for Youth

Community Relations Board

Senior Citizens Center

Citizen’s Crime Watch

YMCA

South Miami Elks

Big Brother/Big Sister

M.A.D.D.

Informed Families



# ELECTED OFFICIALS

## MAYOR

PHILIP K. STODDARD

## VICE MAYOR

WALTER HARRIS

## COMMISSIONER

LUIS GIL

## COMMISSIONER

JOSH LIEBMAN

## COMMISSIONER

ROBERT WELSH

# CHARTERED OFFICIALS

## CITY CLERK

NKENGA A. PAYNE

## CITY MANAGER

STEVEN ALEXANDER

## CITY ATTORNEY

THOMAS PEPE, ESQ.

# MANAGEMENT TEAM

## DEPUTY CITY MANAGER

SHARI KAMALI

## CHIEF OF POLICE

RENE G. LANDA

## CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

ALFREDO RIVEROL, CPA

## SUPERINTENDENT MAINTENANCE

JOHN REESE

## HUMAN RESOURCES

SAMANTHA FRAGA

## BUILDING DEPARTMENT

VICTOR CITARELLA

## PLANNING & ZONING

JANE TOMPKINS

## PARKS & RECREATION

QUENTIN POUGH

