

MARCH 2009



2008 ANNUAL REPORT

CHIEF ROBERT F. RICHARDSON II



CITY OF SOUTH MIAMI

CITY COMMISSION

HORACE G. FELIU, MAYOR

BRIAN D. BEASLEY, VICE MAYOR

VALERIE NEWMAN, COMMISSIONER

VELMA PALMER, COMMISSIONER

JAY BECKMAN, COMMISSIONER

ADMINISTRATION

W. AJIBOLA BALOGUN, CITY MANAGER

MARIA MENENDEZ, CITY CLERK

LUIS FIGUEREDO, CITY ATTORNEY

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ANNUAL REPORT PRODUCED UNDER THE
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MISSION STATEMENT

The South Miami Police Department exists for the purpose of maintaining social order within prescribed ethical and constitutional limits, to develop a sense of personal security within South Miami, enhance public knowledge and confidence that timely emergency and professional assistance will be rapidly dispatched when needed, to create public confidence through educating the public in crime prevention techniques and encouraging a spirit of cooperation and mutual trust between the department and the public.

FUNCTIONS:

Maintain social order within prescribed ethical and constitutional limits

Preserve the peace and protect life and property

Promptly and thoroughly investigate crimes against persons and property

Enhance public awareness and confidence that timely emergency and professional assistance will be rapidly dispatched when needed

Courteous and efficient response to public service needs

Create public confidence through education in crime prevention techniques



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.

CHIEF'S MESSAGE

I am very pleased to present the South Miami Police Department's 2008 Annual Report and am indebted to the employees who worked so hard during the year to make the City of South Miami a safe place to live, shop, and conduct business. 2008 was a year of great accomplishments for our Department. The following summarizes some of the more significant achievements:



Gun Bounty Program - Initiated Gun Bounty Program in South Miami. This program provides citizens with the ability to call in tips regarding the illegal possession of firearms. \$1,000 is awarded to anonymous tipsters who provide information leading to the arrest of those that are illegally possessing firearms. This program enhances the Police Department's commitment for a safer community. Cost to South Miami Taxpayers: \$0 (funded by Miami-Dade Crimestoppers).

DUI Enforcement - Through continued aggressive enforcement and participation in checkpoints and other multi-agency initiatives, three new laser speed devices valued at \$6,000, have been received from a state program which awards agencies for their participation.

Narcotics Loitering Ordinance - Police Officers were recently trained in and began implementing the City's new narcotics loitering ordinance.

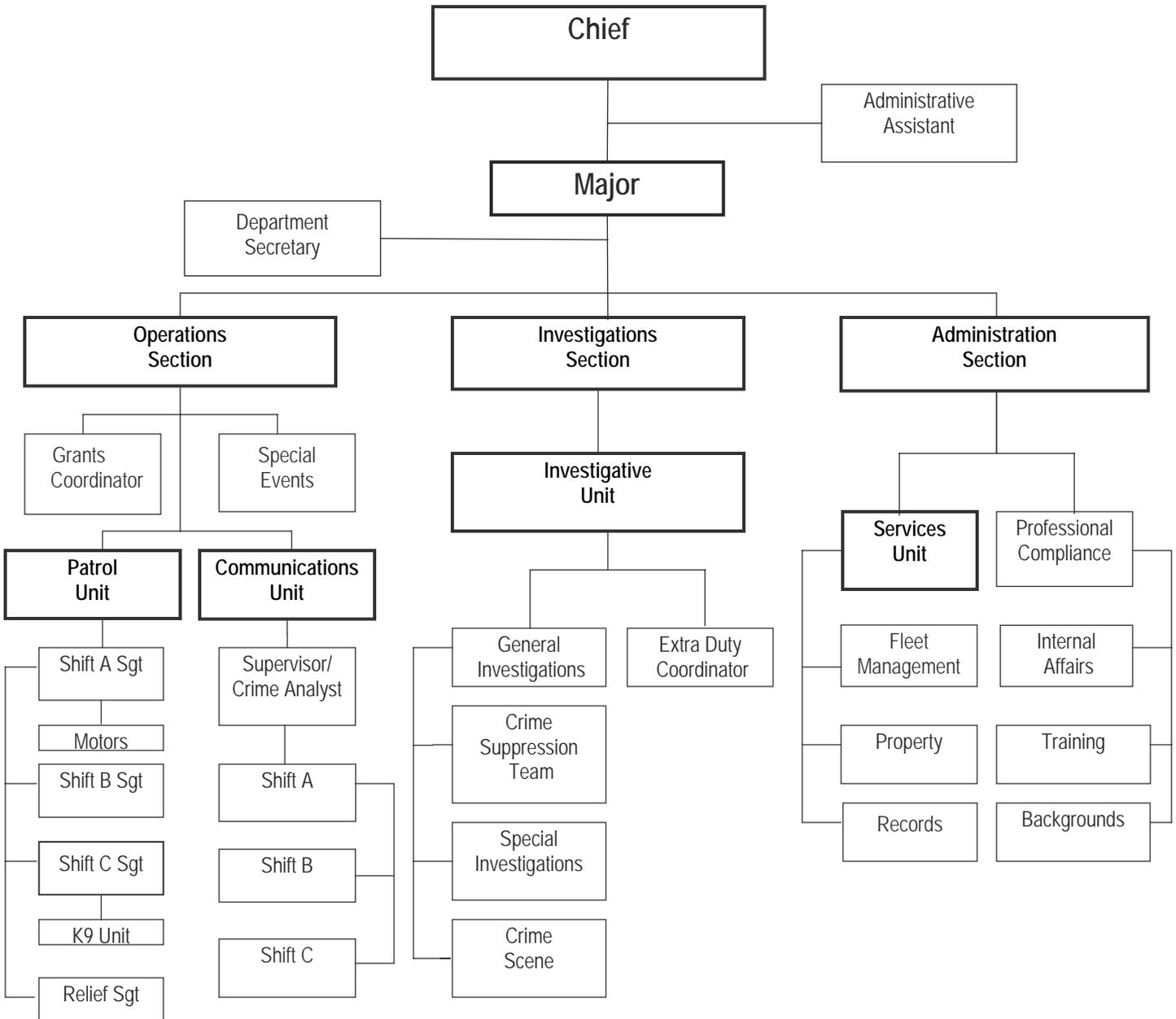
Child Abduction Response Team (C.A.R.T.)- Police Detectives participated in the regional exercise to certify the South Florida C.A.R.T. This team utilizes the resources of multiple agencies to locate endangered abducted children with a rapid response approach. As members of the team, South Miami has these resources at our disposal and will also assist other agencies when necessary.

Staff Duty Officer -Weekend Duty Program - To address a minor spike in robberies around Sunset Place and to monitor quality of life issues such as loud music, command staff personnel have been scheduled to work various hours on weekend evenings. These command personnel also monitor use of the narcotics loitering ordinance. This supplements undercover surveillance and directed uniform patrols in the downtown area.

It is an honor to serve a city that places such a high value on public safety and supports its Police Department. We look forward to continuing to work in partnership with the community to keep South Miami one of the safest cities in America.

Robert F. Richardson II
Chief of Police

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



Revised: March 2009



COMMAND STAFF



CHIEF OF POLICE
ROBERT F. RICHARDSON II



MAJOR
MICHAEL MILLS



CAPTAIN
MICHAEL D'ANGELO



CAPTAIN
RUBEN RODRIGUEZ



CAPTAIN
LISA MORTON



LIEUTENANT
JOHN BARZOLA



COMMUNICATIONS SUPERVISOR
LISA CORBIN



LIEUTENANT
LARRY CORBIN



LIEUTENANT
DANIEL SALERNO

BUDGET

Fiscal Year 2006/07: 4,577,590

Fiscal Year 2007/08: 4,813,078

Fiscal Year 2008/09: 4,753,039

ACCT	2008-2009	2007-2008
SALARIES - REGULAR	3,482,658	3,595,576
SALARIES - PART TIME	0	0
OVER TIME	175,000	160,000
SPECIAL PAY-ED.	25,000	25,000
HAZARD PAY	5,156	52,000
FICA	285,637	297,015
GROUP HEALTH INS	260,540	277,759
TOTAL PERSONNEL SERV.	4,279,991	4,407,350
ANNUAL PHY/DRUG TESTS	12,980	6,875
CONTRACTUAL SERV.	32,400	32,830
CRIME PREV. PROGRAM	3,000	3,750
TRAVEL & CONFERENCE	2,000	6,500
TRAINING/EDUCATION	7,000	13,681
PRISONER DETENTION	250	250
LEASE PURCHASE - POL.VEH.	153,752	132,752
MAINT/REPAIR - EQUIP	32,000	30,900
MAINT/REPAIR - COMM.	42,700	51,100
SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS	6,500	6,500
EMPLOYEE TESTING	12,000	11,670
SUPPLIES	33,000	30,000
UNIFORMS	67,700	66,000
MEMBERSHIP/SUBS.	8,000	8,000
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	413,282	400,558
EQUIP.UNDER \$500 IN VALUE	500	350
OFFICE EQUIPMENT	6,266	3,020
OPERATING EQUIPMENT	53,000	1,800
TOTAL CAPITAL OUTLAY	59,766	5,170
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	4,753,039	4,813,078

ANNUAL COMPARISON

Violent Class I Crimes	2006	2007	2008
Homicide	1	0	1
Manslaughter	0	0	0
Rape Committed	1	0	3
Rape Attempted	0	0	0
Sodomy	0	1	1
Fondling	0	0	0
Robbery	50	29	46
<i>Highway</i>	23	11	11
<i>Comm. Other</i>	6	4	10
<i>Gas/Soc. Station</i>	0	1	2
<i>Convenience</i>	2	1	0
<i>Residence</i>	5	1	2
<i>Bank</i>	1	2	0
<i>Miscellaneous</i>	13	9	21
Agg Assault	45	46	60
Agg Stalking	1	0	0
Simple Assault (not a class I crime)	107	108	115
Total Violent :	98	76	111
Non- Violent Class I Crimes			
Burglary Non Res	98	78	102
Grand Theft Auto	43	32	35
Larceny	44	61	39
<i>Pick Pocket</i>	584	569	597
<i>Purse Snatch (reported under robberies)</i>	3	2	2
<i>Shoplifting</i>	0	0	0
<i>From Motor Veh</i>	60	60	105
<i>Motor Veh Parts</i>	204	219	173
<i>Bicycles</i>	88	79	90
<i>From Bldg</i>	13	13	15
<i>From Coin Opr.Device</i>	29	19	10
<i>All Other</i>	0	2	2
	187	175	200
Total Non-Violent:	769	740	773
Total Offenses:	867	816	884

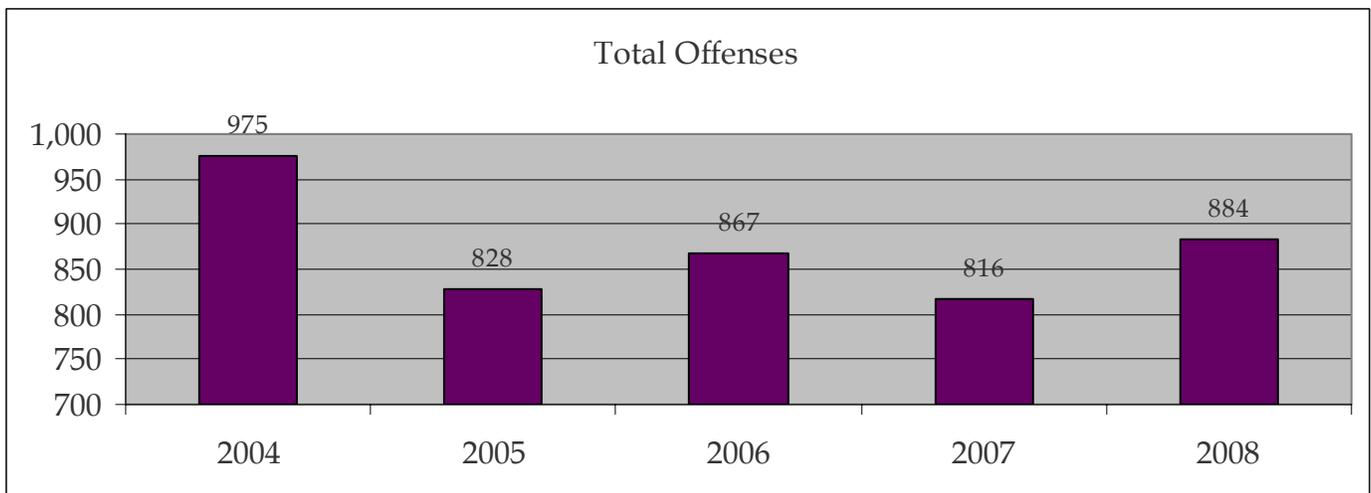
UNIFORM CRIME REPORTS

With the current economy, most law enforcement professionals are being asked the obvious question; are you noticing an increase in crime? Unfortunately, in most cases, the answer is, yes, and South Miami is certainly no exception. As the following graphs illustrate, there have been increases in most categories. The previous page however, does show a decrease in auto thefts and vehicle burglaries.

The increase in violent crimes appears to be substantial. There was one murder which started as a fight at a Coral Gables restaurant and ended in gunfire on the Red Road border of our city. There was also a significant increase in robberies that are classified as violent crimes. However, these “violent crimes” as classified by the FBI, include mostly instances wherein an item of property (such as a cellular phone, shopping bag or purse) was snatched from the victim’s possession.

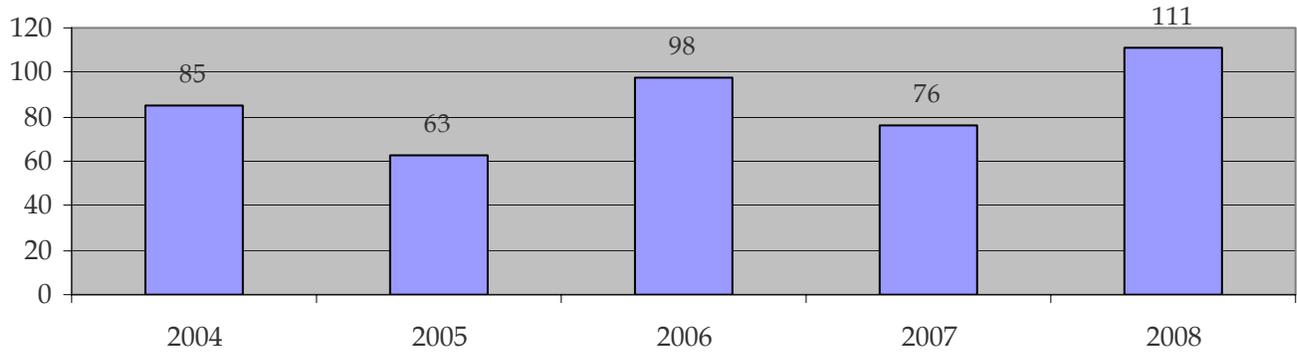
We can proudly report that as this report is being prepared in late February, all of the increased categories from last year, especially robberies and residential burglaries have taken a serious downturn due to our investigators’ arrests of several key individuals involved in these crimes earlier in 2009. In the last couple of weeks, there have been no residential or commercial burglaries and only one robbery reported. Vigilance by our officers and investigators – with the support of the community – will hopefully further reduce these crime levels.

With a commitment to endeavoring to decrease or eradicate crime every year, any increase is disappointing to our Police Staff. But, with the increase in popularity of our hometown center bringing more and more vehicles and patrons into the city, we are still experiencing substantially less crime (between 20 and 25 percent) than 10 years ago when we were a much sleepier little town. Without the unique commitment of the entire Police Department Staff, one would expect just the opposite.

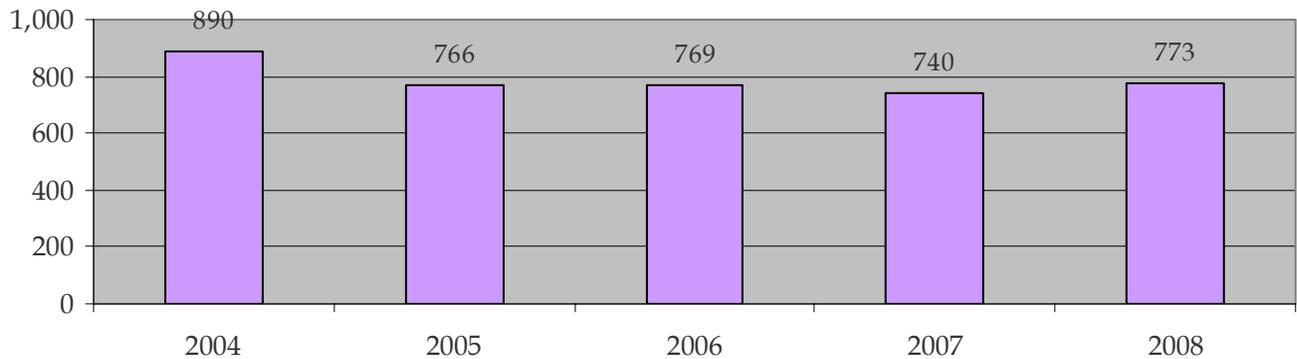


UNIFORM CRIME REPORTS

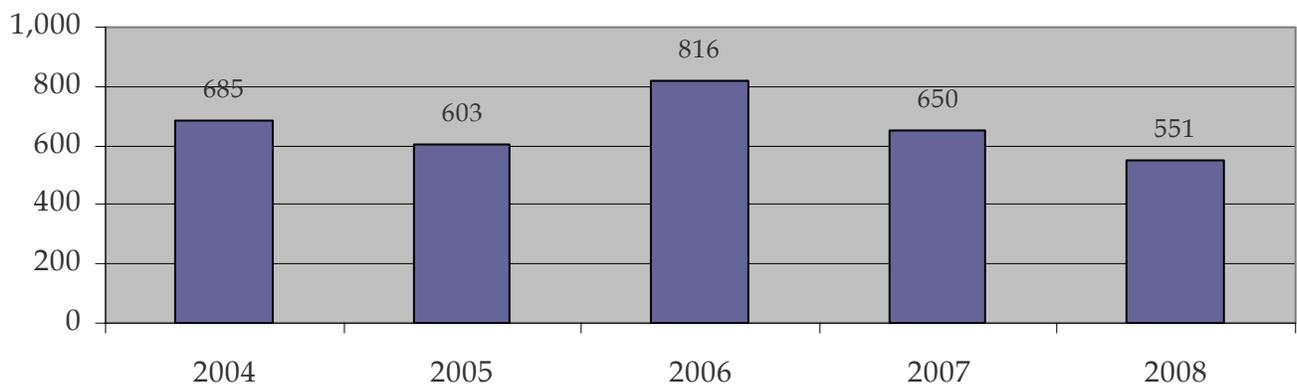
Violent Crimes



Non-Violent Crimes



Arrests



OPERATIONS SECTION

The Operations section is the largest and most visible component of the police department. It's comprised of Patrol & Communications. This unit is the frontline in crime prevention. Although responsible for all calls for police service; emergency and non-emergency, the Patrol unit takes a proactive approach to preventing crimes and apprehending criminals. During down time, officers conduct park & walks and other directed patrol activities in areas where their efforts will be the most effective.

This unit also handles specialized patrol assignments (such as the downtown holiday walking beat, parade details and major event organizations) and all other requests for general police services. Patrol Officers are responsible for initiating criminal investigations for detectives to follow up.



Pictured: Capt. D'Angelo



Pictured: Lt. Barzola

The following specialized units within the Patrol unit greatly enhance the department's service to the community:

- K-9 Units
- Motorcycle Unit
- Community Patrol
- Crisis Intervention Officers
- Field Training Officers
- D.U.I. Enforcement
- Honor Guard

Patrol officers are responsible for the six patrol zones of South Miami. The zones are made up of a wide variety of residential and commercial areas and are patrolled 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Officers in this unit diligently perform their duties during holidays and natural disasters.

This year the Patrol Unit reaffirmed their commitment to the county-wide multi agency gang task force (MAGTF). Officers from agencies throughout Miami Dade bring information and expertise to areas impacted by gang activity. By participating, South Miami has all the resources of this task force at its disposal.



Day Shift roll call briefing; Pictured l to r: Ofc. Torres, Cpl. Hechavarria, Ofc. Lopez, Ofc. Bukens and Ofc. Jackson

OPERATIONS SECTION

In 2008, the Patrol unit took part in a county-wide emergency management planning exercise on the Metro-rail transit system. The department recognized the concerns as several thousand commuters visit South Miami via Metro-rail and the bus system daily.



Cpl. De La Espriella conducting a traffic stop

Patrol officers continue to make traffic enforcement concerns a major priority throughout our residential and business communities. When visiting our website, www.smpolice.org, you can click on the traffic issues link on the left hand side. There, you can access a form "Traffic Concerns or Suggestions", which was designed as a simple method for residents to report any traffic issues they are worried about. Once sent, the form gets automatically forwarded to the Patrol Captain for immediate attention and enforcement.

The Park & Walk (or PAW's) concept is a simple, yet effective method of bringing officers closer to the community they serve. During times when officers are not handling calls for police service, they will park their patrol cars and engage in foot patrols of South Miami's residential neighborhoods. This gives residents the chance to openly contact officers and share concerns, yet it also provides officers with a closer view of what's right and what may be wrong in a particular area.



Ofc. Bukens conducts a residential Park & Walk



Ofc. Castro & K-9 Bono completing a search exercise

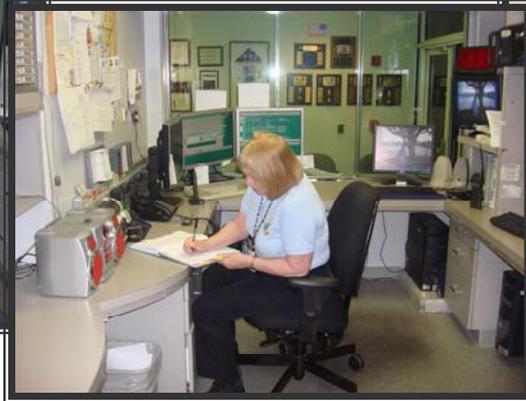
The K9 Unit is fully certified in criminal apprehensions and narcotics detection. They provide on going support in the event of searches for fleeing criminals. Additionally, Ofc. Castro and his partner, K9 Bono continue to partner with outside agencies such as DEA and U. S. Customs Blue Lightning Task Force. There they search cruise ships, containers and luggage at the Port of Miami to assist in combating the importation of illegal drugs .

COMMUNICATIONS UNIT

The Police Communications Center is, in effect, the nerve center of the Police Department and after hours, for the City in general. The highly trained Communications Officers receive and react to reports of crime, crashes, medical emergencies and literally every type of call or inquiry imaginable. In a matter of seconds they could be giving a tourist directions when a call is received regarding the most heinous crime conceivable. Their knowledge and patience are put to the test 24 hours a day, 365 days per year.



C.O. Lopez transmits on the Kendall Radio Frequency



C.O. Redd logs information



C.O. Balas enters a request for police assistance into the CAD

Often compared to dispatchers, complaint operators or receptionists in other agencies, South Miami Police Communications Officers are required to handle all those duties, as well as, a myriad of others. Often working solo, they must answer multiple telephone lines and monitor three radio frequencies simultaneously. They also review and dispatch requests for police services through two Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) systems while also monitoring the law enforcement teletype system and the security system for Police and City Hall. In addition, they are responsible for maintaining official police records including offense/incidents, arrests and accident reports. They also receive those visiting or working in the building.

COMMUNICATIONS UNIT



C.O. Skalski answers a call for service

During 2008 we received 10,655 calls for service. These calls are generated in four different ways; 911 calls via the Miami Dade Police Department, emergency & non-emergency telephone calls directly into the main line, inter-agency radio communications and officer self-initiated or discovered activity. On average, 220 telephone calls are answered on a daily basis.

Officer and citizen safety is their top priority so communications officers are required to keep up certifications and are encouraged to attend any available training in their field. Some include; Stress Identification & Management, Advance Law Enforcement Dispatch, Active Shooting Response, Communications Field Training Program, FCIC/NCIC Basic & Recertification Courses.



Above; C.O. Skalski (5th from the left) pictured with her class at the Institute of Police Technology for the "train the trainer" certification course.

INVESTIGATIONS SECTION

The role of the Criminal Investigations Section within the South Miami Police Department is to conduct preliminary, follow-up and special investigations. Included in this process is the objective of establishing an information base of criminal activity encompassing the identification and apprehension of offenders. Additionally, VIP/dignitary protection will be provided when required.



Pictured: Capt. Rodriguez

The Criminal Investigations Section is supervised by a Lieutenant who reports to the section Captain. The section is divided into two units; General Investigations and Special Investigations.



L to R: Lt. Corbin reviews cases while Det. Lopez schedules a pre-file conference

The General Investigations Unit is currently comprised of three Detectives who conduct preliminary and follow-up investigations on crimes against persons or property and are also responsible for processing crime scenes for evidence. These detectives are also instrumental in assisting their counter parts in The Special Investigations Unit.

During the year, in addition to working their normal assigned cases, G.I.U. Detectives handled an additional 604 cases contacting victims of minor crimes. They worked numerous crime suppression details to stem the increase in vehicle burglaries within the parking lots of the Shops of

Sunset Place, South Miami Hospital, the downtown business and residential areas. They also worked special details in order to combat an increase in robberies occurring around the Metro Rail Station and around the Miami Dade County Fire Station. G.I.U. Detectives also assisted S.I.U. Detectives in identifying narcotic sellers/suppliers & buyers, who in turn were also committing residential and vehicle burglaries.

Overall, during 2008 there was a 71% clearance rate on assigned cases.



Capt. Rodriguez reviews case load with Det. Guzman & Det. Rodriguez

SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS UNIT

The Special Investigations Unit is currently comprised of three Detectives; one who handles local narcotics, vice, intelligence and crime suppression activities and two who are detached to a Federal Task Force handling narcotics, smuggling and gathering of intelligence for homeland security.

A high priority for any police department is eradicating street drug sales in the community. While the sale and use of illegal drugs is a problem in itself, customarily other crimes are always on the rise when this type of activity occurs. A continued focus with the emphasis on zero tolerance has continued in 2008 and is resulting in a noticeable change by members of the affected community.



Det. Munoz during a warrant round up



Impounded narcotics from an arrest

During this year, the Special Investigations Unit detectives conducted numerous undercover narcotics operations. Due to their efforts we now have identified 65 individuals as narcotic sellers, suppliers or buyers. As that investigative process moves forward, those identified individuals will be arrested and their narcotics operations closed down. Also, due to the efforts and hard work of the two S.I.U. Detectives assigned to work closely with different federal agencies (DEA, ICE, USSS and FBI), they collectively confiscated over \$4,876,186 of which approximately \$1,241,973 in pending forfeiture monies are ear marked for the our agency. These detectives also assist their counter parts in The General Investigations Unit as needed.



Ofc Vijil & Ofc Lantigua during a warrant round up

Our efforts will carry on as we make a continued impact on the quality of life in our community and the lives of our children.



Ofc. Rojas & Det Lopez during a warrant round up

ADMINISTRATION SECTION

The Administrative Section is responsible for overseeing the services unit and professional compliance. Professional compliance is comprised of internal affairs, training and backgrounds.

Professional compliance has established a system of internal review in order to insure the integrity of the police department. Internal affairs is committed to promptly and thoroughly investigate suspicions or allegations of misconduct by departmental personnel. At the same time and in fairness, the reputation of innocent members must be protected from false reports or accusations.

This unit is also responsible for ensuring that departmental personnel receive State mandated and salary incentive training through the Florida department of law enforcement, criminal justice standards and training commission. A commitment to ensuring that police employees are among the most highly trained resulted in a total of 2485 hours of training during the year. Some of the advanced training topics include Crime Scene, Narcotics & Dangerous Drugs and traffic related courses like Laser & Radar Speed Measurement.



Lt. Barzola & Ofc. Kinlaw conducting Taser training

This year, the South Miami Police Department implemented a Taser program. By using funds from the seized assets of drug dealers, we were able to issue the latest Taser Electronic Control Device (ECD). Each officer has been trained, certified and outfitted with an ECD. This device gives another non-lethal option for officers confronting a resisting or combative person. This program enhances the safety of our citizens and was implemented at no cost to taxpayers.

Backgrounds are an integral part of our hiring process. During 2008, fourteen background checks for police & communications officers were conducted. A background check includes; reviewing applications, criminal history, fingerprints, interviewing applicants, psychological testing, physical testing, polygraphs, credit history, neighborhood checks and personal references.

Out of those fourteen, four applicants were hired to fill Police Officer positions. These positions were vacated by officers who have resigned or retired.

SERVICES UNIT

The Services Unit is comprised of four components: Records, Property/Evidence, Fleet Management and Crime Prevention.

The Records Unit maintains police offense/incident and crash reports, age of department documents and the disposal of departmental documents in accordance with Florida's Record Retentions Laws.



Pictured Lt. Salerno



Lt. Salerno inventories impounded property

The Property/Evidence Unit receives all evidence and property items which have been impounded, maintaining the chain of custody of these items for court and the return or disposal of items no longer needed as evidence for court.



Lt. Salerno impounds narcotics

Fleet Management oversees the maintenance of the Department's vehicles. The Department's Fleet is comprised of assigned marked police vehicles, pool (spare) marked police vehicles, unmarked and undercover vehicles. Fleet Management is also involved with the purchase and equipping of new police vehicles.



Lt. Salerno inspects new vehicle

The Crime Prevention Unit handles Crime Awareness and Crime Prevention Presentations, Citizens Crime Watch, and Drug Awareness Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.) programs for our area schools.

SUPPORT PERSONNEL

The administrative assistant & department secretary are an integral part of our Support personnel. They perform a variety of secretarial and administrative duties relative to the particular needs of the chief of police, police major and other department members.



Cathy Motta reviews payroll



Cathy Motta completes correspondence for the Chief

They are responsible for preparing and maintaining statistical and technical reports such as; payroll , time & attendance records, invoices for payment, personnel files, confidential memorandum and department budget records.

During the holidays, they represent the department by becoming involved with the various food & toy holiday drives the city sponsors for the community.



Celia Vicente answers the telephone

PROMOTIONS

Spurred by the March retirement of Lt. Bruce Ross, The South Miami Police Department promoted three of it's finest this year.

John Barzola, a highly respected 16-year veteran of the South Miami Police Department was promoted to Lieutenant. His new assignment placed him in command of the day-to-day operations for the Patrol Unit. Lt. Barzola has received numerous awards for officer of the month, was named officer of the year in 1995 & received the prestigious chief's award in 2003.



Chief Richardson & Lt. Barzola after the promotion ceremony



Chief Richardson congratulates Sgt. Aguiar on his promotion

Jesus Aguiar, a highly motivated officer, was promoted to sergeant after only 3 1/2 years with our agency. He has been assigned as a patrol supervisor and can certainly lead by example. Early on in his career he began receiving Officer of the Month awards, was named Officer of the Year in 2007 and went on to claim the prestigious Chief's Award for 2008. His leadership has also been demonstrated by his work with the Police Explorer Post and his service on the agency's distinguished Honor Guard.

Darby Wagner, a 12-year veteran, was promoted to sergeant and has been assigned as a patrol supervisor. He served in the armed forces both in the United States & overseas for four years. During that time, he was assigned to the military police unit. He has also been an integral part of our agency's field training program.



Chief Richardson administers the supervisory oath to Sgt. Wagner

AWARD RECIPIENTS

OFFICER OF THE YEAR 2008

Detective Mendez is being recognized for his outstanding performance while on special assignment as a Task Force Officer with the Drug Enforcement Administration (D.E.A.). His accomplishments during 2008 included the seizure of \$582,718 in assets which will result in the distribution of \$199,406 as South Miami's net share of those proceeds. His efforts have resulted in the seizure of multiple kilos of heroin and cocaine, as well as ecstasy and other pills and an aircraft valued at \$450,000.

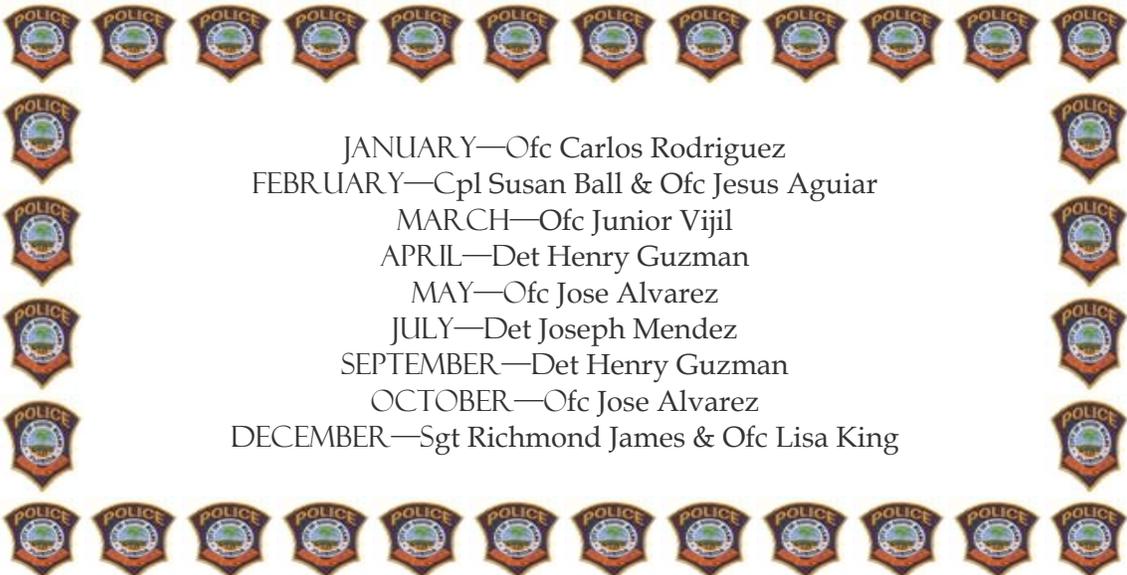


Pictured: Det. Mendez

His duties as a Task Force Officer are varied, extremely dangerous and have led him from Boston to Bogota, Colombia and various places in between. His assignment includes many hours of surveillance and translation of intercepted communications. But, he is best known by his D.E.A. peers and supervisors for his ability to gain the trust of the bad guys while working undercover. In one evaluation by a D.E.A. supervisor, he is cited for using the same trick on the same targeted drug dealers several times and they continue to ship kilos of heroin to him.

Mendez joined the South Miami Police Department in 1995 and was immediately recognized as being a very professional and effective officer. Within a year and a half he was assigned as an investigator. While such an assignment is usually reserved for more experienced officers, his performance has proven that the decision was an excellent one.

OFFICER OF THE YEAR
2008



JANUARY—Ofc Carlos Rodriguez
FEBRUARY—Cpl Susan Ball & Ofc Jesus Aguiar
MARCH—Ofc Junior Vijil
APRIL—Det Henry Guzman
MAY—Ofc Jose Alvarez
JULY—Det Joseph Mendez
SEPTEMBER—Det Henry Guzman
OCTOBER—Ofc Jose Alvarez
DECEMBER—Sgt Richmond James & Ofc Lisa King

OFFICER OF THE YEAR
2008

AWARD RECIPIENTS

CHIEF'S AWARD 2008

Sgt. Jesus Aguiar is a 5-year veteran of the South Miami Police Department. He was promoted to Sergeant this past April. Prior to his promotion, he was the recipient of numerous Officer of the Month awards and he was the 2007 Officer of the Year.

Prior to his promotion, he was awarded Co-Officer of the Month in February, 2008, for his involvement in an extremely dangerous incident wherein he and Corporal Susan Ball had confronted a car burglar. He was cited for his apprehension of the subject after being in great personal danger during the confrontation.



Pictured: Sgt. Aguiar

He is being honored with the Chief's Award for his actions in that case as well as the other activities that contribute positively to the overall mission of the South Miami Police Department.

Recognizing the priority to enhance recruiting efforts, Sgt. Aguiar developed a recruiting pamphlet and began conducting recruitment drives at police academies and college criminal justice programs. He is also the driving force behind the South Miami Police Explorer Post.

Under his leadership, this Explorer Post maintains only those young men and women who prove themselves worthy. Many young people in our community are seeking structure and discipline in their lives and they want to enjoy activities with clean, respectful peers who share their desire to serve as positive role models. Sgt. Aguiar has recruited new Post Advisors to assist him and he continues to recruit new Explorers from local schools. He cooperated with Miami Dade and Coral Gables Police to develop local Explorer competitions and the South Miami Explorers participated for the first time in statewide competitions. By assisting the City of Miami to coordinate its Explorer Academy, several South Miami Explorers were able to attend and graduate from that program.

Sgt. Aguiar has not lost his dedication or desire for the street-level police work that earned him accolades prior to his promotion. He still continues to proactively seek out the criminal element resulting now in a classic case of leading by example.

EXPLORER POST #256

The South Miami Police Explorer Post #256 is sponsored by the South Miami Police Department and is chartered through the Learning for Life Organization. The program provides high school and college students an insight into a career in law enforcement. It also allows young men and women an opportunity to give positive service back to the community. Throughout the history of the program many South Miami Explorers have become very successful leaders, inside and outside of the law enforcement community.

The South Miami Police Explorers participate in a wide range of community service events and city events. Students participate in events such as: crime prevention projects, parades, observer ride-alongs, explorer competitions, social events, law enforcement related training and much more.

The South Miami Police Explorer Program is known locally for its dedication to provide community service and help build a bridge between students and police officers. The program is also known for its ability to improve student's leadership skills and to produce future leaders.



Expl. Jonathan Dejesus waiting for ceremony to start

Lincoln Marti Camparee Annual Explorer Event



Lincoln Marti Campsite



Explr. Yovann Ruiz talks with fellow attendees



L to R: Expl. Armando Mediavilla & Expl. Elba Beltra talk with Explorers from other agencies during the campout event



Honor Guard presents the colors



Expl. Richard Perez at his post



COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

D.A.R.E. PROGRAM:

The South Miami Police Department was one of the first in Miami-Dade County to have an officer certified to teach elementary and middle school students the dangers of drugs through the **D**rug **A**buse **R**esistance Education program. Since the early 1980's, the department continues the commitment to keep our children healthy and drug free. In 2008, approximately 400 middle school students completed this program.

S.A.F.E. AND R.A.D. PROGRAMS:

For the last few years, the S.A.F.E. program, **S**elf **D**efense **A**wareness **F**amiliarization **E**xchange, which teaches women awareness and self defense, has been offered and taught by the South Miami Police Department to local women's groups. The **R.A.D.** program, **R**ape **A**ggression **D**efense, is also taught to women and high school aged girls, primarily in cooperation with South Miami's Junior Commission for Women.

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

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

On Saturday March 15, 2008 the annual **Walk to Cure Diabetes** was held at the Miami Metro Zoo. The **Police Officers Assistance Trust** took on the task of having at least 150 walkers and raising approximately \$38,000 to help fight juvenile diabetes. The South Miami Police Department did its part by forming a team of walkers as well as fundraisers. The team consisted of Captain Michael D'Angelo, Officer Patricia Vazquez, Detective Paul Rodriguez, Communications Officer Christine Skalski and they were all joined by family members. This event is just one example of worthwhile programs and organizations the department supports.



The SM Team L to R: Det. Rodriguez & children, C.O. Skalski, Michelle Skalski, Ofc. Vazquez, Quan D'Angelo, Samantha D'Angelo & Capt. D'Angelo



L to R: Det. Rodriguez with children, Samantha D'Angelo, Capt. D'Angelo & son Quan D'Angelo.



Michelle Skalski & C.O. Skalski



L to R: Capt D'Angelo & Det. Rodriguez



L to R: Det. Rodriguez, Capt D'Angelo, Samantha D'Angelo, Ofc. Vazquez

FALLEN HERO



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

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

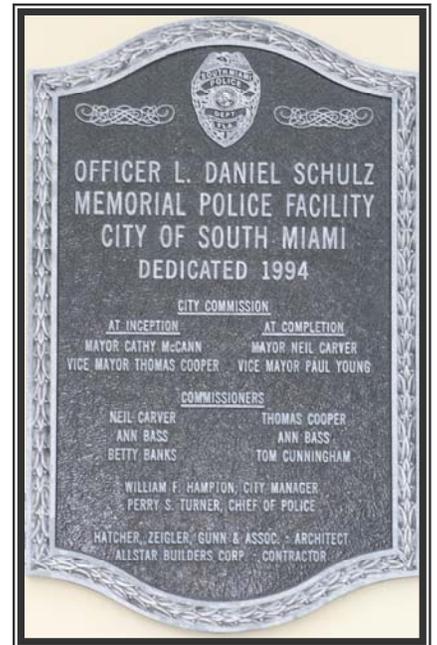
Officer Schulz died in the line of duty 21 years ago, after being stabbed while working an off duty job.

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.

A granite memorial stone now sits in front of the police station and serves as a constant reminder of the hero who gave his life protecting our community.

In 1994, the South Miami Police Department dedicated the police station in Schulz' honor and through the PBA's street dedication program a portion of SW 57 Ave was also dedicated in Officer Schulz' memory. South Miami Mayor Horace Feliu presented The Schulz Family with a proclamation designating November 5, 2007 as Officer L. Daniel Schulz Day.



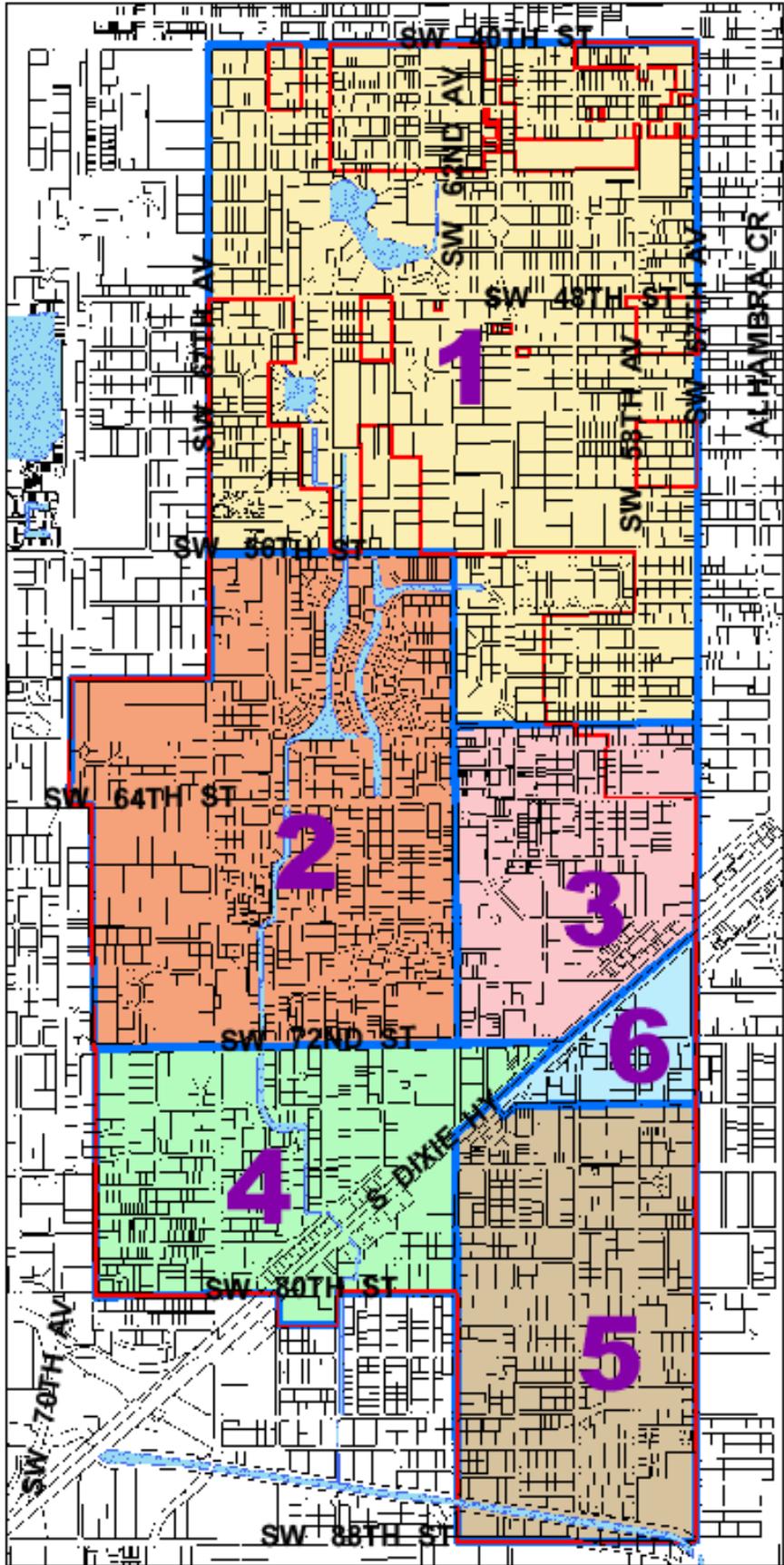
Dedication plaque on the front of the police building



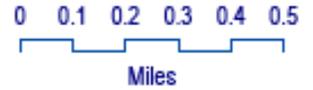
Memorial Stone in front of the police station



Dedicated street sign on SW 57 Ave



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.*