

SOUTH MIAMI POLICE DEPARTMENT

# Annual Report 2021

RENÉ G. LANDA,  
CHIEF OF POLICE

SHARI KAMALI,  
CITY MANAGER

SALLY PHILLIPS,  
MAYOR





South Miami utilizes a City Manager form of government. Meaning, the Commission sets the policies and the City Manager acts as the Chief Executive. Commissioners are elected to four-year terms and the Mayor is elected to a two-year term. The Commissioner receiving the most votes is also given the title of Vice Mayor for the first two years of the term.

## **2021 ELECTED OFFICIALS**

**MAYOR** Sally B Philips

**COMMISSIONER** Luis Gil, Group I

**COMMISSIONER** Josh Liebman, Group II

**COMMISSIONER** Brian Corey, Group III

**COMMISSIONER** Walter Harris, Group IV

## **2021 CHARTERED OFFICIALS**

**CITY CLERK** Nkenga Payne

**CITY MANAGER** Shari Kamali

**CITY ATTORNEY** Thomas Pepe, ESQ.



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## MISSION STATEMENT

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

## VISION STATEMENT

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

## CORE VALUES

EXCELLENCE  
INTEGRITY  
INCLUSION



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*Annual Report Produced by :  
Lisa Corbin, Communications Manager*

# Chief's Message

On behalf of all of the members of the South Miami Police Department (SMPD), I am proud to present you with the 2021 Annual Report of the SMPD. Our officers are proud to be a part of our community and are dedicated to protecting and serving you. As you read this report, please keep in mind that it represents the dedication and service of the men and women who improve the quality of life for our community by providing professional public safety services. We are here to protect and serve through our Core Values of Excellence, Integrity and Inclusion.

There is no doubt that 2021 will be an unforgettable year much like 2020. Like everyone in our community, the SMPD had to contend with the ever-changing circumstances of our lives due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Despite the many challenges placed on the department by the pandemic, the members of the department were able to achieve success. Those results are detailed within this report.

Based on what we learned during the pandemic and the anti-police movement we wanted to create an entity to assist our officers with mental wellness. We immediately got to work on this worthwhile project and collaborated with the Boulder Crest Foundation. Boulder Crest focuses on two strategic areas, which are Struggle Well Mental Health Training and Regional Peer Support, to minimize the adverse impact of law enforcement professional and personal stress and trauma. Well-adjusted officers work harder and provide better, more professional service to their community. We achieved this goal in 2021. This past May, I became the President of the Miami-Dade County Association of Chiefs of Police and shared this resource with every Miami-Dade county police department.

As we start the new year I am proud to say we lived up to our Mission Statement in 2021 which states, "To deliver professional police service in partnership with the people we serve, in order to provide a safe and secure environment for all." The SMPD was there, will always be here on the frontline increasing safety for our residents, officers and visitors, and always will be whether we face a pandemic, a hurricane or anything else affecting our great city.

I welcome you to visit our website at <https://www.southmiamifl.gov/166/Public-Safety> to learn more about our department, our programs and policies. I also urge you to follow us on our social media accounts.



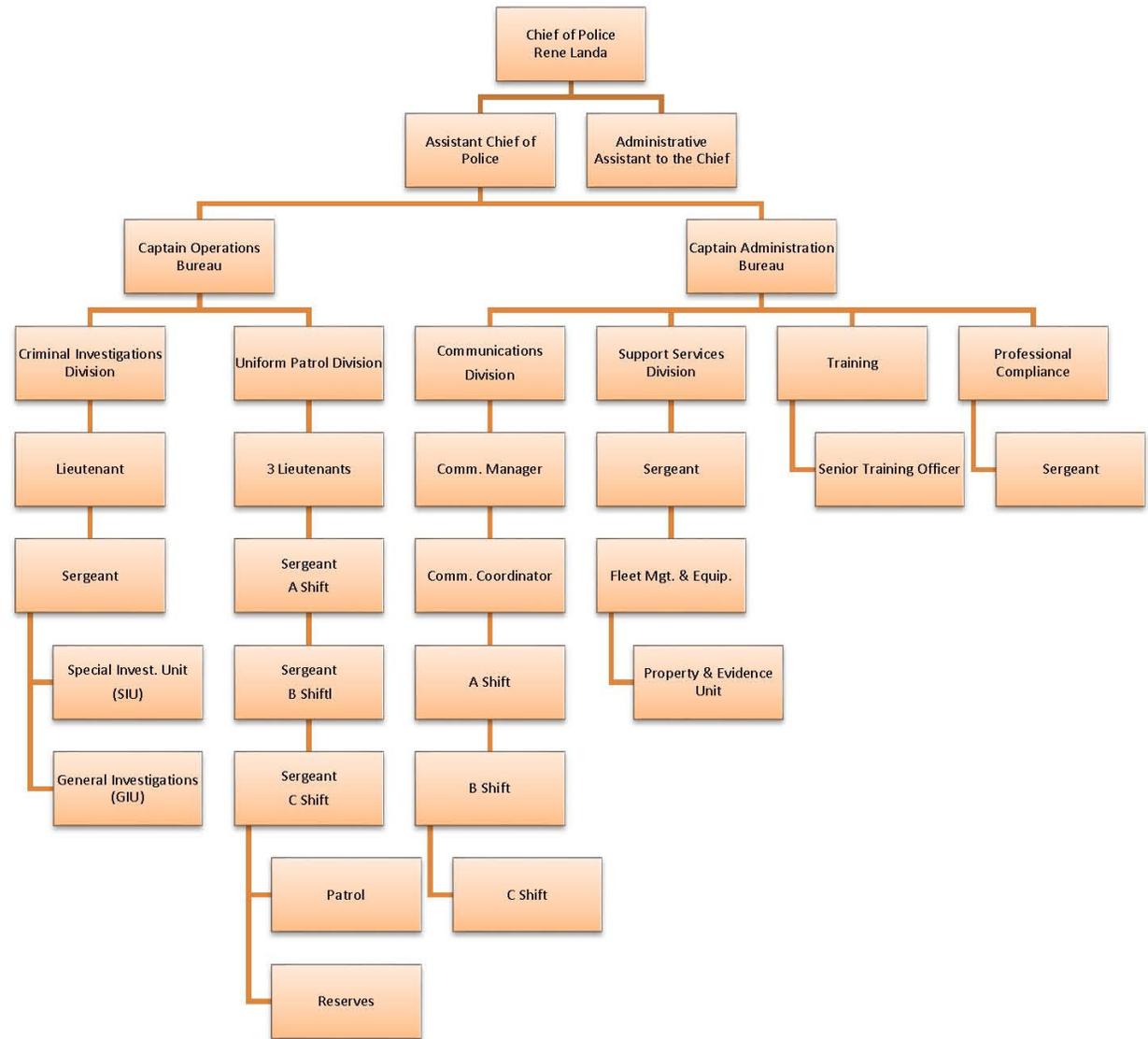
CHIEF RENÉ G. LANDA



# Organizational Chart

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

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



Contact Us:

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Lieutenant Robert Bukens

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Lieutenant Kile Nave

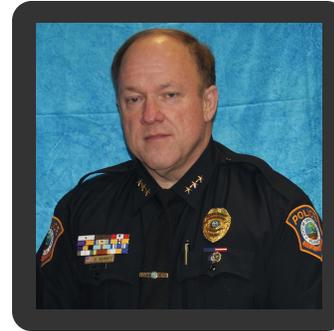
786.456.2231

[knave@southmiamipdf.org](mailto:knave@southmiamipdf.org)

# Command Staff



Chief René Landa



Asst. Chief Charles Nanney



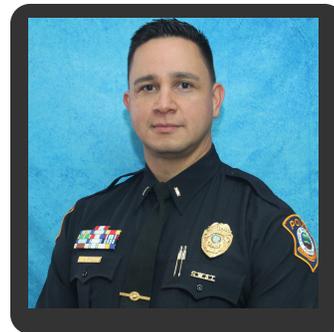
Captain Larry Corbin



Captain John Barzola



Lt. Jesus Aguiar



Lt. Junior Vijil



Lt. Robert Bukens



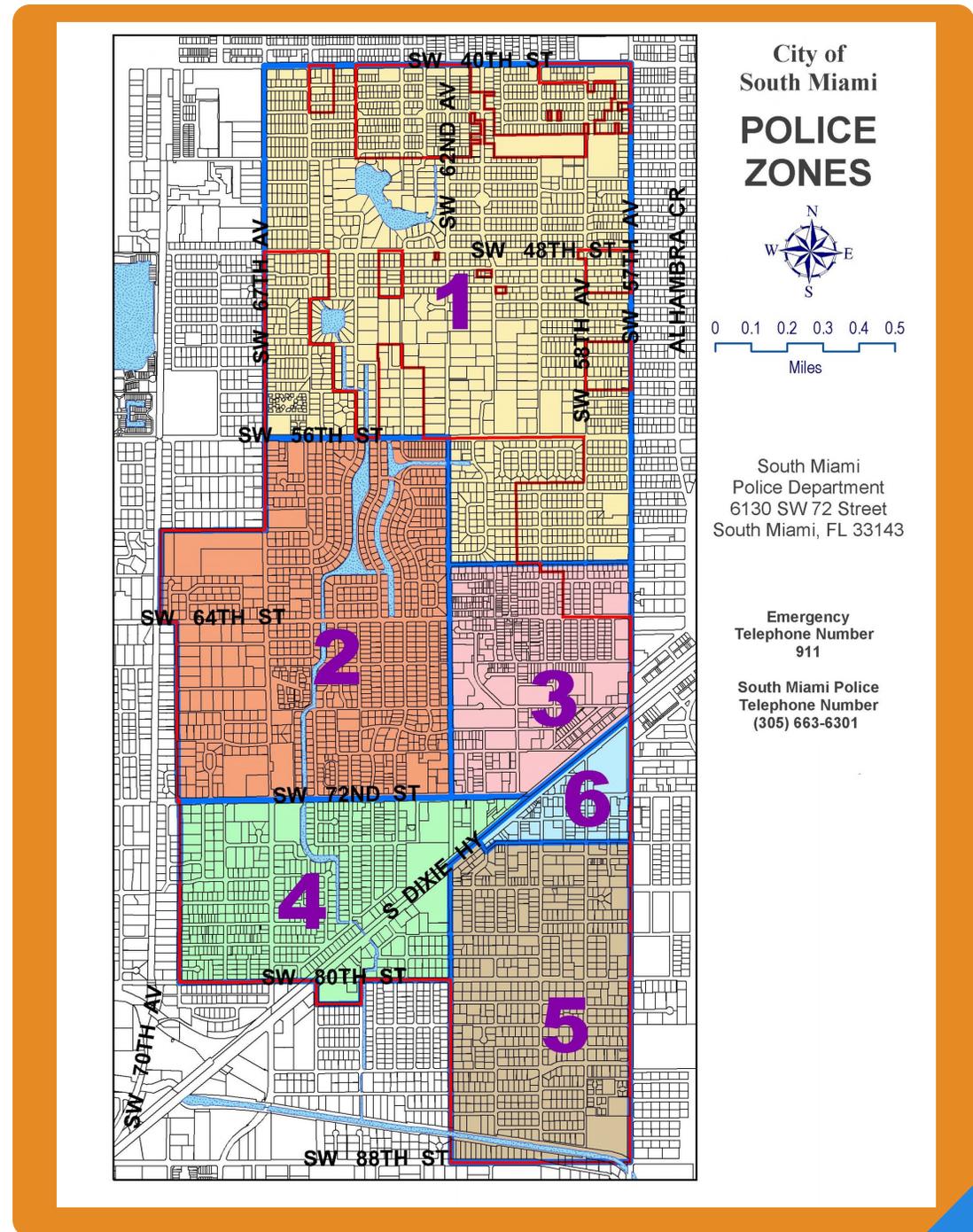
Lt. Kile Nave

# City Boundaries & Zones

The City of South Miami encompasses about 3 square miles.

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

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



# FIBRS vs UCR

Nationally, as of January 1, 2021, the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) began only accepting Incident Based Uniform Crime Reports from law enforcement agencies. This was done in an effort to gather more detailed information and get a clearer understanding of crime in an area. This reporting looks at all offenses within an incident which allows for improved analysis.

As a result, the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE), who is Florida's Central Criminal Records Repository, recommended all Florida agencies switch to Florida's Incident Based Reporting System (FIBRS) by the same timeframe in order to be FBI compliant. Towards the middle of 2020, the South Miami Police Department began preparing for this switch over. Our officers, detectives, dispatchers and staff were trained in FIBRS/NIBRS (National Incident Based Reporting System) and our Records Management System (RMS) was upgraded and pushed out to the field.

South Miami Police met the required deadline and switched our crime reporting submissions from Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) to FIBRS. Once collected, that information is then sent to FDLE for review and once verified, FDLE sends the collected data to the FBI to be included in their nationwide statistics under NIBRS. The FBI then uses this data to describe an aggregate representation of crime in the United States. The FBI also separately captures data for other collections such as Law Enforcement Officers Killed/Assault (LEOKA) and employee counts.

You might be wondering what impact the UCR transition from Summary reporting to Incident-Based Reporting will have on an agencies UCR Statistics. Unfortunately, the true effects will not be known until after the switch has been made by all Florida agencies including FDLE. Since there is no Florida specific data available as of yet, the FBI did a study based on observed trends from other states in 2014. That study can be found on the FBI website at ; [https://ucr.fbi.gov/nibrs/2014/resource-pages/effects\\_of\\_nibrs\\_on\\_crime\\_statistics\\_final.pdf](https://ucr.fbi.gov/nibrs/2014/resource-pages/effects_of_nibrs_on_crime_statistics_final.pdf)

Many law enforcement agencies have been reluctant to move to incident based reporting from summary based, largely impart because it will appear as a greater increase in crime. This perception is based on the following reporting differences;

## Effects of NIBRS on Crime Statistics

### Executive Summary

Many law enforcement agencies are hesitant about moving from the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program's Summary Reporting System (SRS) to its National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) because of the perception that reporting crime through NIBRS will appear to increase the agency's crime. The perception is based on the following reporting differences:

- The SRS collects aggregated monthly crime in ten offense categories.
- NIBRS collects disaggregated offense, victim, offender, property, and arrestee information for 49 offenses.
- The SRS employs a hierarchy rule, which NIBRS does not.
- NIBRS counts up to 10 offenses per incident.

An example of these differences can be seen in an incident involving murder, robbery, and motor vehicle theft. The Hierarchy Rule in the SRS states when more than one offense occurs within an incident, only the most serious crime contributes to the agency's monthly crime totals. Therefore, the agency would count only the homicide for the monthly totals because homicide is the highest offense on the hierarchy. When reported through NIBRS, however, the agency would count the murder, the robbery, and the motor vehicle theft.

Due to the differences between the SRS and NIBRS reporting standards, it can appear that an agency has higher levels of crime after switching to NIBRS. Agencies, of course, understand that NIBRS reporting does not actually increase crime, but often fear that the public, media, and government officials will misinterpret the *apparent* change in crime and attribute the increased crime counts to failed policing administration and leadership rather than a change in how the crime data are being reported. In spite of this concern, NIBRS participation increased from 663 reporting agencies in 1991 to 6,299 agencies in 2014.

Analysis of the NIBRS data and the data that were converted to SRS data sets showed the following effects on reported crime due to the removal of the Hierarchy Rule and to an allowance for reporting multiple offenses:

- Rape: No effect.
- Robbery: Increased 0.6 percent.
- Aggravated Assault: Increased 0.6 percent.
- Burglary: Increased 1.0 percent.
- Larceny: Increased 2.6 percent.
- Motor Vehicle Theft: Increased 2.7 percent.
- Total SRS Offenses: Increased 2.1 percent.
- Incidents that involved multiple offenses: 10.6 percent of all reported incidents.

# FIBRS vs UCR (con't)

- The SRS (Summary Reporting System) collects aggregated monthly crime in ten offense categories.
- NIBRS collects disaggregated offense, victim, offender, property and arrestee information for 49 offenses.
- The SRS employs a hierarchy rule, which NIBRS does not
- NIBRS counts up to 10 offense per incident

An example showing these differences was provided in the study by using an incident involving a murder, robbery and motor vehicle theft (carjacking). For summary reporting only the homicide, which is the higher level of crime, would be reported to UCR for this incident. This same incident under NIBRS would count a homicide, a robbery and a motor vehicle theft.

These differences in reporting can make an agency appear as though there has been a significant increase in crimes. This in turn leads to the public perception of a failed administration or leadership, when in fact, this is just not the case.

Analysis of the NIBRS data and the data that were converted to SRS data sets showed the following effects on reported crime due to the removal of the Hierarchy Rule and to an allowance for reporting multiple offenses:

- Rape: No effect
- Robbery: Increased 0.6%
- Aggravated Assault: Increased 0.6%
- Burglary: Increased 1%
- Larceny: Increased 2.6%
- Motor Vehicle Theft: Increased 2.7%
- Total SRS Offenses: Increased 2.1%
- Incidents that involved multiple offenses: 10.6% of all reported incidents.

It should be noted that we are unable to compare UCR statistics to NIBRS statistics due to these great differences. The NIBRS comparisons will occur in 2023 when the 2022 numbers have been submitted and reviewed.

**INCIDENT-BASED REPORTING FACT SHEET**

**WHY TRANSITION FROM SUMMARY TO INCIDENT-BASED UCR?**  
As of January 1, 2021, the FBI will accept only incident-based UCR data.

**WHAT IS INCIDENT-BASED REPORTING?**  
Incident-based reporting collects detailed data on each crime occurrence. There are 52 reportable offenses on which detailed incident, offense, victim, and offender information is collected.

Old Reporting System (SRS)	10 offense classifications	1 offense counted per crime incident
New Reporting System (NIBRS)	52 offense classifications	Up to 10 offenses counted per crime incident

**Summary Reporting**

- Two crime categories:
  - Crime Against Person
  - Crime Against Property
- Hierarchy Rule: that dictates only the most serious offense in an incident is reported (except Human Trafficking and Arms)
- Victim and Offender info, race, and ethnicity for Murder offenses only

**WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF IMPLEMENTING INCIDENT-BASED REPORTING?**

- Greater reporting specificity by looking at all offenses within an incident.
- Improved data quality and timeliness.
- More detailed information provides a clearer picture of crime in an area and allows for better analysis.

**HOW IS INCIDENT-BASED REPORTING DIFFERENT FROM SUMMARY REPORTING?**

- Summary Reporting
  - 10 reportable offenses (Index Crimes)
  - Hierarchy Rule (only the most serious offense gets reported in a single incident)
  - Aggregate totals only
  - Limited incident, victim, offender, and relationship detail
- Incident-based Reporting
  - 52 reportable offenses
  - All offenses (up to ten) are counted for each incident
  - 58 separate data elements, much more detail about incidents

**ADDITIONAL REFERENCES:**  
www.ficrj.net/CJIS-Resources/UCR-Resources/Home.aspx  
FDLE UCR Team - [ucr@file.state.fl.us](mailto:ucr@file.state.fl.us) or 850-410-7121

February 2020

# 2021 NIBRS Submission

2021	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	TL
Total # Incidents	56	44	76	52	57	47	55	57	65	50	42	45	<b>646</b>
Clearance by Arrests	9	10	14	17	16	6	6	7	9	14	7	6	<b>121</b>
Victim Refused to Cooperate	4	1	9	3	7	4	8	7	3	4	7	3	<b>60</b>
Total Clearance by Arrests	13	11	23	20	23	10	14	14	12	18	14	9	<b>181</b>
Clearance Rate	23	25	30	38	40	21	25	24	18	36	33	20	
Crime Against Person	10	7	30	14	17	14	15	11	16	12	21	12	<b>179</b>
Crime Against Property	57	31	54	39	40	31	45	44	52	42	28	32	<b>491</b>
Crime Against Society	2	6	4	7	5	5	5	3	2	3	1	3	<b>46</b>
<b>Total Group A</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>716</b>
Non Violent	57	38	56	44	45	40	48	51	54	47	32	35	<b>547</b>
Violent	11	7	30	13	16	10	15	7	15	12	18	12	<b>166</b>
<b>Total Group A</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>713</b>
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE													
Agg Assault	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	<b>4</b>
Fondling	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>1</b>
Simple Assault	0	0	4	0	3	0	0	1	2	2	2	0	<b>14</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>19</b>

2020 UCR	Part I Crime
Homicides	0
Sex Offenses	6
Robbery	13
Agg Assault	31
Simple	190
Burglary Res	58
Burglary Comm	32
Theft	211
Theft from MV	107
GTA	25
Total Violent	50
Total Non-Violent	427
Total Offenses	477
Arrests	206

# 2021 NIBRS Submission (pg2)

2021	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	TL
<b>Total Arrests</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>201</b>
Adult Arrests	11	12	18	20	22	15	16	15	15	23	15	13	195
Juvenile Arrests	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	6
LEOKA	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	7
<b>Crime Against Person</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>183</b>
Agg Assault	4	3	6	8	8	1	9	3	4	1	8	5	60
Simple Assault	6	4	16	3	7	9	4	4	9	8	9	5	84
Intimidation	0	0	5	2	2	4	1	4	3	2	3	2	28
Kidnapping/Abduction	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	4
Sex Offenses	0	0	3	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	7
<b>Crime Against Property</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>509</b>
Arson	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bribery	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Burglary B&E	10	4	8	6	5	3	5	7	5	6	4	3	66
Counterfeiting/Forgery	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	2	4	1	10
Vandalism	6	5	15	6	5	4	13	12	8	4	4	8	90
False Pretense Swindle	0	1	2	1	2	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	12
Credit Card/ATM Fraud	1	0	0	1	1	2	0	0	3	2	1	1	12
Wire Fraud	0	0	1	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	5

2020 UCR	Part I Crime
Homicides	0
Sex Offenses	6
Robbery	13
Agg Assault	31
Simple	190
Burglary Res	58
Burglary Comm	32
Theft	211
Theft from MV	107
GTA	25
Total Violent	50
Total Non-Violent	427
Total Offenses	477
Arrests	206

# 2021 NIBRS Submission (pg 3)

2020 UCR	Part I Crime
Homicides	0
Sex Offenses	6
Robbery	13
Agg Assault	31
Simple	190
Burglary Res	58
Burglary Comm	32
Theft	211
Theft from MV	107
GTA	25
Total Violent	50
Total Non-Violent	427
Total Offenses	477
Arrests	206

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Totals
Impersonation	1	2	0	2	2	0	2	1	4	1	1	2	18
Embezzlement	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Extortion/Blackmail	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	00	0	0	0	0
Homicide Offenses	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Human Trafficking	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Larceny / Theft Offenses	26	19	22	17	22	17	17	22	25	17	12	15	231
Motor Vehicle Theft	12	0	1	2	3	3	6	4	0	0	0	0	44
Robbery	1	0	5	1	1	0	1	0	2	2	0	2	15
Stolen Property Offenses	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Crimes Against Society</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>53</b>
Animal Cruelty	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Commerce Violations	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Drug/Narc Offenses	3	6	4	6	5	5	2	6	2	4	1	1	45
Espionage	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Money Laundering* not w/ fraud	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fugitive Offenses	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gambling Offenses	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Immigration Violations	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pornography/Obscene Material	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Prostitution Offenses	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Treason	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Weapon Law Violations	0	0	2	1	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	1	7
<b>Totals</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>745</b>

# Administrative Bureau

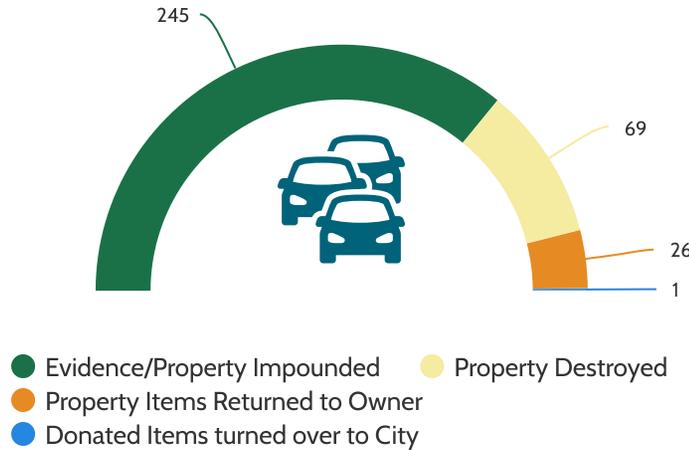
The Administration Bureau oversees Communications, Training, Professional Compliance and Support Services for the Police Department. The Administration Bureau is responsible for Vehicle Procurement, Special Initiatives, Budget, Records Management, Product Research, Training and other ancillary services as assigned by the Chief of Police. We are tasked as the project managers for the Body Worn Camera and the Red Light Camera programs. This year we transitioned our Records Management Reporting to be NIBRS compliant in order to conform to FBI and FDLE guidelines.

Throughout 2021, COVID reduced many of the outside training opportunities made available to the Department. However, with previously adopted technologies such as the training simulator and web-based programs, we were able to continue our commitment to instruction. The Mobley Center continues to enable us to provide hands on education along with classroom sessions.

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

-Captain John Barzola

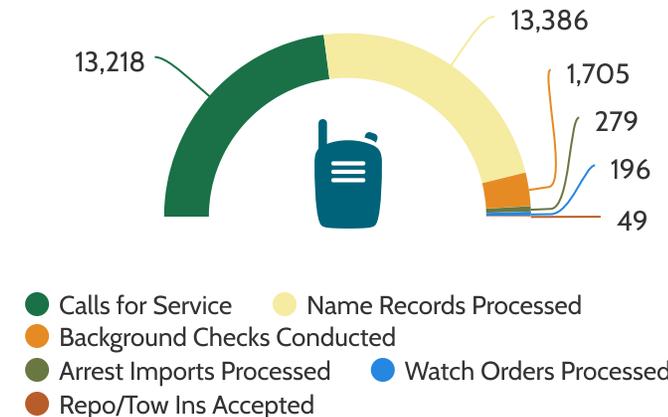
## Support Services



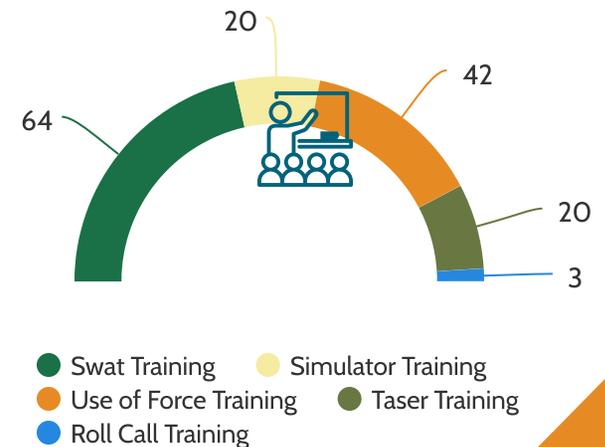
## Professional Compliance



## Communications



## Training

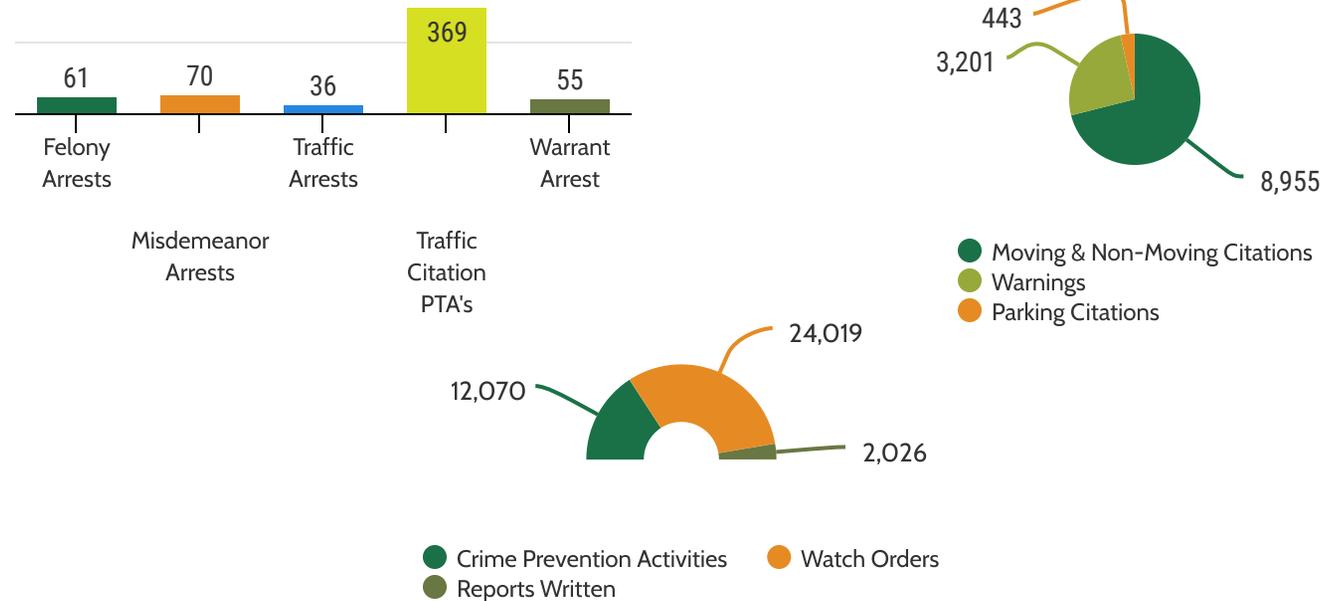


# Operations Bureau

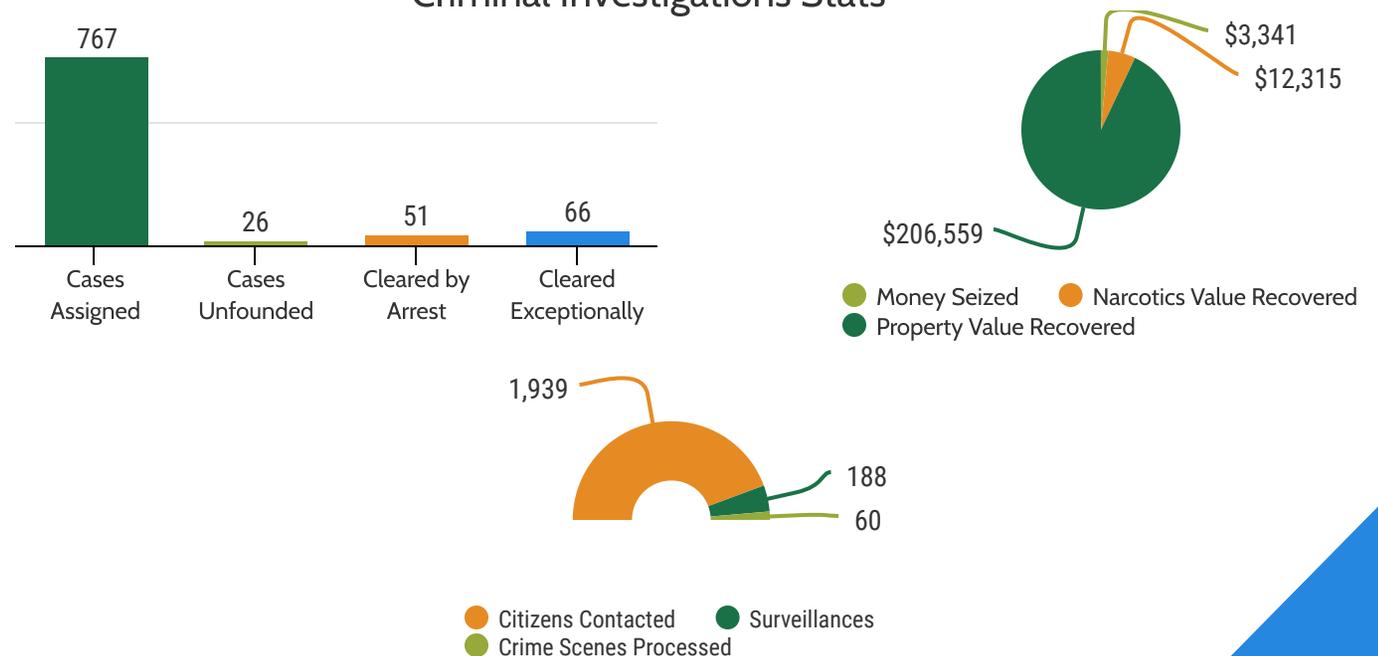
The Operations Bureau is the largest within the agency overseeing both the Uniform Patrol & Criminal Investigations Divisions. Patrol is responsible for handling calls for service; crimes, crashes, medical emergencies and various citizen complaints. Criminal Investigations is divided into two units; General & Special. General (GIU) focuses on follow-up investigations to criminal reports against persons and property. Special (SIU), focuses on narcotics and vice crimes. This year Criminal Investigations had a clearance rate of 18.75% which includes cases not meeting NIBRS requirements.

-Capt. Larry Corbin

## Uniform Patrol Stats



## Criminal Investigations Stats



# Awards

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



Lt. Junior Vijil  
Officer of the Month  
April 2021



Det. Victor Jackson  
Officer of the Month  
May 2021



Ofc. Darien Rodriguez  
Courtesy Officer  
September 2021



Cpl. Melvris Lopez  
Courtesy Officer  
October 2021



Cpl. Michael Vargas  
Officer of the Month  
October 2021



Ofc. Rodney Napier  
"Anthony Damato  
Legacy Award"  
Community Service  
October 2021



Ofc. Perla Reyes  
PBA Rookie Officer of the  
Year Finalist  
2021



# Police Athletic League

The South Miami Police Department's PAL program is run by Executive Director, Ofc. Marcus Kinlaw. Ofc. Kinlaw oversees all aspects of the program with the help of six assistant coaches and volunteers. The COVID 19 Pandemic continued to hamper many of this years activities. 40 children participated in eight track meets and we placed 4th in the Atlantic Coast Youth Track & Field Championship. By late November the team was able to begin pre-season conditioning with 41 kids. PAL still aims to begin a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Math) and Mentorship Program along with boxing, baseball, girls softball and golf. These projects will enable youth to participate in any statewide or nationwide events, to help foster comradery and team building. This year we presented the 1st Annual "Daniel Schulz PAL Scholarship Award" to PAL Alumni Kamayah Strickland. She was chosen based on an essay she submitted for consideration.

-Ofc. Marcus Kinlaw



# Chaplain Swear-Ins

This year Chief Landa expanded our Police Chaplain program from one pastor to three as part of his "Officer Wellness" program. Mental health service is a crucial component of any wellness, especially for police officers. Police Chaplains serve as a support system for law enforcement in times of crisis. Officers are usually guarded individuals that have trouble communicating about the traumas they have witnessed or might be going through on a personal level. Having a pastor lend an ear in an informal setting helps officers open up more easily.

Chief Landa swore in Reverend Edwin Collado and Reverend Jose Perez alongside his Staff and Senior Police Chaplain Joshua Caley.

## Reverend Edwin Collado



## Reverend Jose Perez



# Community Involvement

We continued to honor victims of cancer by attending the Annual Mystic Force Foundation Event and the Miami Beach Police Breast Cancer Car Display Event . We attended the annual 911 tribute ceremony by the South Miami Senior High School JROTC program and were able to once again host the community Halloween Safe Streets Event. We continued working alongside The Power of One in order to help distribute blankets for the homeless; joined the Eastern Stars Foundation while they distributed meals for the needy over the Thanksgiving Holiday and passed out toys provided by the American Legions Post #31 during December.



# Community Involvement



South Miami  
THE CITY OF PLEASANT LIVING

## SAFE STREETS HALLOWEEN

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2021 | 4PM - 7PM

SUNSET DRIVE (72ND STREET)  
FROM U.S. 1 TO 57TH AVENUE

**SAFE & FUN TRICK OR TREATING FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY**  
Candy, Games, Music, Pumpkin Decorating,  
Live Entertainment, Inflatables & More

305-668-3876 - WWW.SOUTHMIAMIFL.GOV - PARKS@SOUTHMIAMIFL.GOV



# Community Affairs

Throughout 2021, Chief René Landa continued to expand the responsibilities of the department's Community Affairs. Officer Rodney Napier is the first to serve in this capacity under the direction of Assistant Chief Nanney, Captain Corbin and Lieutenant Vijil.

This unit established the City's first Homeless Outreach Program, providing homeless shelter beds and services exclusive to the South Miami Police Department. We continue to offer these services by securing outside funding without any expense to the City. The program renews annually. Our Community Affairs officers, Corporal Melvris Lopez-Lee and Officer Napier are actively involved with Florida's Crisis Intervention System of the Eleventh Judicial Circuit Criminal Mental Health Crisis Intervention Team. This enables the South Miami Police Department to utilize many community resources throughout Miami-Dade County.

In addition, our Community Affairs unit develops and cements relationships with the business community and engages business owners with the Department and the City. The dedication to that effort persists today.

This unit also provides the visibility of our Bike Patrol encouraging casual and friendly encounters. This also led to a greater focus on identifying and rectifying over 130 Quality of Life issues throughout the city.

## POLICING WITH COMPASSION

The Police Department tapped into the resources of The South Miami Library, allowing us to host a small group of people who are changing lives. Led by the South Miami Police Community Affairs Officer, Rodney Napier, they are helping those among our communities most vulnerable.

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

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

Since the program has now been in place, over thirty people have been helped from homeless to hopeful.



# Community Affairs

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

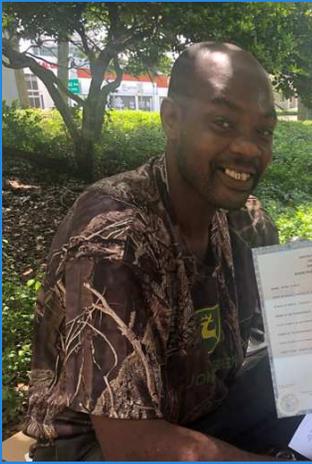
The South Miami Police Department, through its Community Affairs Officer continues to advocate for the need of emergency shelter for our area homeless population. The Project funded by South Miami Hospital has been a smashing success. The 100% utilization rate demonstrates the ongoing need for dedicated emergency shelter beds.

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

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

1. Providing emergency shelter with the goal to transition into permanent housing.
2. Camillus House provides each bed and a large range of related services.
3. Covered Term: December 1, 2021 – November 3, 2022.

The emergency shelter beds are located at the Camillus' Norwegian Cruise Line Campus, 1603 NW 7th Avenue, Miami. The Emergency Shelter beds are available on a 24-7 basis to allow South Miami Police Officers to make placements at any hour as needed. Persons participating in the South Miami Hospital sponsored Police Department/Camillus House Emergency Shelter Partnership have access to a full range of services specifically designed for persons who are homeless. "Our goal is not to simply move the homeless across some city line to make them someone else's issue; it is to provide them with the helping hand needed to overcome tremendous obstacles", Chief René Landa said.





# Law Enforcement Officers Memorial



**LEO MEMORIAL**



**911 TRIBUTE**



**K9 MEMORIAL**

The Police Memorial, which is located at Tropical Park, was established in 1980 to honor fallen officers from every police department and law enforcement agencies in Miami- Dade County. The original triple granite structure was unveiled in May 1981 and remains an integral part of the site.

In 2001, four black granite walls were erected; etched with the names of the gallant men and women who died serving the citizens of their community. Today, 143 names grace those hallowed walls.

Two five-foot high towers were added to the site in 2002 to commemorate the law enforcement officers who were killed at the World Trade Center and the Pentagon on September 11th, 2001.

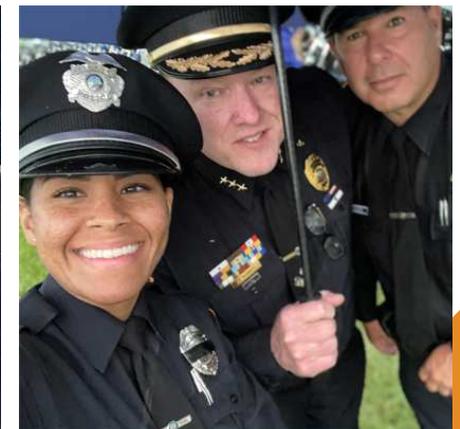
The Miami-Dade K-9 Memorial was dedicated on August 14, 2009 at Tropical Park to memorialize and honor all of the police canines including the eight that died serving the citizens of Miami-Dade County.

The Police Memorial stands in South Florida as a tribute to heroism and sacrifice.

*[Courtesy of the POAT website @ poat.org]*

*In 1962, President John F. Kennedy signed a proclamation designating May 15th as Peace Officers Memorial Day and the calendar week of each year during which May 15th occurs is Police Week. The proclamation stated, in part, that the purpose of this holiday and corresponding week was to "pay tribute to the law enforcement officers who have made the ultimate sacrifice for our country and to voice our appreciation for all those who currently serve on the front lines of the battle against crime".*

*[Articles, Uniformed Services News -May 2019]*



# 9/11 Remembrance

"WE WILL NEVER FORGET", these words were uttered by all twenty years ago on 9/11/2001 when our nation was forever changed by the tragic events that unfolded at the Twin Towers in New York City. We will always honor those lives lost. Three days later on September 14th, 2001, the South Miami Police Department deployed ten volunteer members of the City's Disaster Response Team to NYC to assist the NYPD with relief efforts and security matters. Assistant Chief Greg Feldman & Assistant Chief Michael Mills headed the team of eight men and two women, completing a non-stop twenty-four hour drive to New York. The team worked various details; securing the perimeter around the United Nations, securing Times Square and the Madison Square Garden/Pennsylvania Station areas, securing the 13th Precinct, assisting members of NYPD at the site of the World Trade Center, now known as Ground Zero. They also assisted in debris removal and provided escort/security details at memorial services. The South Miami Commission, City Manager Charles Scurr, South Miami Mayor Julio Robaina & Chief Cokes Watson, Jr. made the aid in the rescue and recovery operation possible. Along with the Assistant Chiefs, the other eight members were: Captain Larry Corbin, Captain John Barzola, Ofc. Michael Vargas, Sr, and former members Sgt. Sheila Scanlon, Det. Michael Strofance, Ofc. Norma Waterman, Ofc. Sam Velez and Ofc. Robert Burchell.



# Fallen Heroes



## Sgt. Joseph O. Kephart

Sergeant Kephart died in the line of duty 52 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 his injuries on January 18, 1970.



## Ofc. L. Daniel Schulz

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

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