



MONROE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Human Resources Division
Sheriff Robert P. Peryam

TO: All Members

FROM: Executive Director Donna A. Moore
Human Resources Division

DATE: July 07, 2009

SUBJECT: Selection of Officer/Member of the Second Quarter for 2009

Recently, the Sheriff's Staff met and took into consideration those nominations for Officer/Member of the Quarter that were submitted for the Second Quarter of 2009.

As a result of this consideration the following members were selected:

SWORN:

Detective Terry Smith began his career with the Sheriff's Office in December of 1998. I'd like to commend Detective Terry Smith for the hard work and exceptional job he has done investigating the case of four Cuban migrants whose bodies were pulled from the waters off shore of the upper Keys in August of 2008.

When the four bodies were pulled from the water over a two day period in August, there was no way of knowing who they were or where they came from. Terry was assigned to investigate the case and, over the next eight months, he did everything in his power to make sure he left no stone unturned in his search for their identify.

He quickly determined the bodies must belong to migrants coming from Cuba. After making that determination, he truly worked "outside the box" on the case – he had to because the usual lines of communication were not available to him due to the lack of diplomatic relations the United States has with that nation.

Using the media, he was able to find a couple of families in Miami who'd been expecting loved ones from Cuba during that time. Mitochondrial DNA tests helped narrow the search. Using the Cuban Democracy Movement in Miami he was able to obtain more information from Cuba about a group of migrants who left there in late August. His hard work paid off- he was able to identify all four bodies. In addition, he was able to identify all eight Cuban men who set off on what turned out to be a deadly crossing from Cuba to the United States in August of 2008.

Because of his hard work, the families of those men know what happened to their loved ones. Their deaths were unfortunate, but at least those families won't be left wondering what happened to them.

In the years I have worked with Terry Smith, I have found him to be a truly dedicated employee of the Sheriff's Office. He puts his all into his job, and you can tell when you discuss a case with him that he truly cares about the people whose lives he touches with his work. He showed that trait when working this case.

He could have easily written these men off as unidentified bodies. He had no missing person's cases to match them up with, and no families clamoring for him to work harder on the case. If he'd written them off and moved on to another investigation, no one would have been the wiser. But his work ethic, and his personal dedication to the job, would not allow that. He is to be admired, and commended, for the work he put into this case, and into all the cases he works for the Sheriff's Office

CORRECTIONS:

Detention Deputy Juan Morales began his career with the Sheriff's Office in May 1995. Deputy Morales has been in many different roles throughout his career. One of those roles just seems to come naturally, that role is leadership. Recently he used those leadership skills when notifying his shift about the suicide of a fellow officer. It was doubly difficult because the officer was also his friend. Morales briefed the shift, letting them know he would always be available for anyone needing to talk about their problems.

He is also not afraid to act when called upon to do so. On May 18, 2009 Deputy Morales was driving southbound through Big Coppitt Key. He saw someone lying on the ground, beside the road. He turned around to help and found a young woman who was passed out and unresponsive. After checking her vital signs, he called dispatch to send rescue. It turned out the subject was a fifteen-year old girl who was under the influence of alcohol and was dropped off on the side of the road by her boyfriend. This situation could have had a tragic outcome, but because of the quick action of Deputy Morales, the girl is safe.

Deputy Morales' job knowledge, leadership skills and Field Training abilities are an asset not only to the shift but also to the Monroe County Sheriff's Office. It is a privilege and an honor to nominate Deputy Morales for Detention Deputy of the Quarter.

SUPPORT:

Sherwood Hanford is the Juvenile Programs Division Manager in the Juvenile Diversion Program. He began his career with the Monroe County Sheriff's Office in July 2006.

The Monroe County Sheriff's Office Intensive Delinquency Diversion Services program recently underwent a Quality Assurance audit by the Department of Juvenile Justice. The two day detailed examination of the program was grueling, both beforehand and while the two auditors were on site.

We knew the audit would take place sometime within a 10 month period, however the auditors only give a week's notice they are coming, so the program had to be in a prepare and wait mode for quite some time. Program Supervisor Sherwood "Woody" Hanford and Diversion Counselor Lisa Bauer worked extremely hard to make sure all their case files were in order at all times. Woody worked after hours and weekends to make sure all the required paperwork was up to date, including general orders for the program, and employee documentation. They were assisted in their efforts by Teen Court case workers Karol Cotton and Tamara Albert.

I have to say, in my 21 years of government work, I have never seen the volume of paperwork that is required by the Department of Juvenile Justice for this program. Each file

must be in perfect condition, with all the required comments, signatures, and forms attached. One small mistake and points are taken away on the audit.

The day of the audit finally arrived April 7th and 8th. The auditors combed over the case files, spoke with parents of children in the program, and examined every aspect of Woody and Lisa's work. At the end of the second day, the head auditor handed me a piece of paper with comments on it. At the bottom of the piece of paper: a smiley face.

Neither auditor had any corrections or negative comments to impart. The following day, DJJ emailed a preliminary audit report to me saying we'd passed with absolutely no negative issues at all. Not one signature missing, not one form out of place.

Given the detailed nature of the audit, I am extremely impressed with the results. Woody and Lisa worked hard to prepare, and it showed. The assistance of Karol and Tamara also contributed considerably to the result.

Their dedication and hard work paid off. They are all to be commended for their efforts.

RESERVE:

I nominate William Davis for Reserve Deputy of the 2nd Quarter 2009. Mr. Davis joined the Reserve Division officially July 09, 2008. I say officially because William was a repeat ride along many, many times over the previous year. He had applied for the reserve program the previous year but was turned down because of our in county residency policy for reserves. A waiver of the residency requirement was requested and approved because of William's demonstrated interest and recommendations by the squad that William rode with.

Since becoming an official member of the Reserve Division, William has graduated from the Basic Law Enforcement Academy in Miami-Dade. William attended this academy at his own expense and time.

In the year since William has joined the reserves he has volunteered over 800 hours. This does not include the hours spent attending the academy. While going to the academy he rode on every other Saturday. William has volunteered for every detail over the last year. William has worked with Special Ops and the State Attorney's Office assisting them.

William's goal is to become a full-time officer with Monroe County. While waiting for an opening to occur he has told me he is planning on completing FTO as a Reserve so that he will be able to hit the road running if he is able to join the Sheriff Office as a full-time officer.

For William's demonstration of his commitment to the Monroe County Sheriff Office and the Citizens of Monroe County I believe he should be considered for the Reserve Deputy of the Quarter.

DAM: sca

xc: Sheriff Robert P. Peryam

Undersheriff Richard Ramsey

Chief Tommy Taylor

Chief Michael Rice

Chief Kenneth Dugger

Lt. Cindy Peryam

Director Becky Herrin

