

# City of Doral Police & Traffic Advisory Board Minutes

Thursday, September 26, 2019 1:00 p.m. Doral Government Center 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Multipurpose Room 8401 NW 53<sup>rd</sup> Terrace Doral, FL 33166

 Call to Order: Meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m.

# 2. Roll Call of Board Members

Radys Nader, Chair

Frank Vaio, Vice-Chair

Wesley Roddy, Secretary

Armando Chanlatte, Board Member

Present

Present

Present

David Yglesias, Board Member Present – Delayed Arrival

Chief Hernan Organvidez, Police Department Deputy Chief Raul Ubieta, Police Department Major Daniel Borrego, Police Department Captain Nancy Fernandez, Police Department Captain Fatima Nunez, Police Department Rita Carbonell, Public Works Department Rey Valdez, Police Department

# 3. Pledge of Allegiance

#### 4. Public Comments

No one from the public was present at the start of the meeting.

### 5. Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the August 22, 2019 meeting minutes was made by Board Member Radys Nader and seconded by Board Member Frank Vaio. By consensus, motion passes unanimously with those board members present.

#### 6. Discussion Items

## a. Doral Police Recent Events

Chief Organvidez commented on two recent events that occurred involving the DPD.

- 1. A DPD officer made a traffic stop and cited the driver with two citations. One for running a four-way stop sign and for driving without a valid driver's license. The officer informed the driver if she drove away she could be arrested. The driver made arrangements to be picked up. Councilman Pete Cabrera asked Chief Organvidez to look into what is the legal responsibility for someone from another country to possess a license. Tourists visiting the State of Florida who have a valid license from another country of residence can drive during their stay. Visitors are not required to carry their passport with them to prove they are on vacation or not. This traffic stop provided a training opportunity for department to clarify what is or is not required of foreign national visitors driving in the State of Florida.
- 2. Discussion concerning the video in the media showing a DPD officer and their interaction with a driver he had pulled over. Chief Organvidez said it was still an ongoing Internal Affairs (IA) investigation and could not be discussed. DPD is working with the State Attorney's Office as well. He did say that the video that was broadcast online or TV was not the complete video that was recorded by the officer(s) body cameras. The totality of the video allows a better representation of what occurred and will assist those involved with the investigation. Deputy Chief Ubieta and Mr. Valdez said the media were provided the entire video and broadcast only a small fraction of what exists. Mr. Nadar asked when is the body camera activated and Chief Organvidez went through the process of how the device works during a police incident. \*Body Worn Cameras Program: <a href="https://www.cityofdoral.com/police/body-worn-cameras-program/">https://www.cityofdoral.com/police/body-worn-cameras-program/</a>

### b. City's Speed Radars Technology in Use

Captain Nunez briefed the status of their six speed radars and their use. Three of these battery operated devices are mounted on trailers and can be moved to other locations based on need or special event. The previous locations of the three: 104<sup>th</sup> Ave. and 74<sup>th</sup> St. (E. Bound), and two located on 97<sup>th</sup> Ave. and 36<sup>th</sup> St. (E & W Bound). These devices like most technologies have already been surpassed and they only provide the current speed of the vehicles passing through its radar. The remaining three speed radars need to be mounted on trailers.

#### c. August Crime Statistics

Captain Fernandez provided the monthly comparison of the crime statistics from August 2018 to August 2019. There was a great reduction in most crimes by 24.8%.

There were 32 arrests in August of 2019 compared to 27 in July 2019. Aggravated assaults and batteries remained the same at 1 each. There were no arsons and 11 auto thefts. They had 1 reported commercial burglary and 7 residential. They were 24 vehicle burglaries (VB). Last year during this period there were 21 VB. There were no homicides. There were 41 larceny / thefts compared to August of 2018 when there were 37. There were 24 larceny / misdemeanor thefts compared to 26 in 2018. No robberies reported in August and 3 sexual offences. Deputy Chief Ubieta said the growth of the city has led to an increase in crimes associated with being a larger city. Other potential problem areas are related to those businesses and venues that serve alcohol and close late. These establishments attract visitors from outside the city and may include a certain element that may contribute to changes in our crime statistics. Year to date we are 1% over where we were last year or 1,110 crimes compared to 1,091 the previous year.

#### d. HOA's Recent Activities

Captain Fernandez updated the board on burglaries that have occurred in Doral Park Communities and arrests and or status. She provided a broad review of the many engagements and information events led by the DPD that provided residents and HOAs ways they can avoid or be more vigilant in their respective communities. Major Borrego related incidents at two separate HOAs that should be of concern to their residents. On one specific night, DPD observed HOA guards asleep while on duty. One was asleep at the gate with the gate open and the other one was asleep on a golf cart with the gate open. Not only are they are asleep, but the gates are open and not preventing vehicles from entering. DPD has notified those HOAs where this occurred.

Captain Fernandez said criminals are coming into Doral and targeting vehicles that have items left in them. People are leaving valuables in vehicles and criminals are looking for this opportunity. DPD are working to identify suspect vehicles and tags and sharing this information with other police departments. This has led to multiple arrests in Miami-Dade and Broward counties and working with the State Attorney on charges. Much of the evidence they have is circumstantial and not physical and it is harder to charge someone unless you can tie it through other means during the investigation. Any item may tie a potential suspect to a particular crime. For example a type of suit worn, a backpack carried, or the use of a stolen credit card could help associate an individual with a particular crime. The use of a stolen credit card is the best way to find the individual who could have participated in the crime, since video is often recorded during this event.

\*Neighborhood Resource Unit: <a href="https://www.cityofdoral.com/police/divisions/special-operations-bureau/neighborhood-resource-unit/">https://www.cityofdoral.com/police/divisions/special-operations-bureau/neighborhood-resource-unit/</a>

#### e. Website Update "Vehicle Burglars Arrested" Section

The DPD website showing people arrested for vehicle burglary has not been updated since 2015 and Mr. Yglesias thought it was beneficial to publish those who have committed these types of crimes in our city. \*Vehicle Burglars Arrested: https://www.cityofdoral.com/police/police-safety-bulletin/vehicle-burglars-arrested/

# f. Hide It, Lock It or Lose It - Campaign

Many of the vehicle burglaries are due to people leaving keys or valuables in plain sight in their vehicles. Car hopers are individuals who try the handle of cars to see if they are locked. Some people leave their spouses spare car keys in their cars in case it is needed and this can contribute to this type of crime.





\*Hide it, Lock it, or Lose it. https://www.cityofdoral.com/police/police-safety-bulletin/hide-it-lock-it/

## g. Open Discussion

October 1<sup>st</sup> is the beginning of the push to educate the public about the new law prohibiting the use of a cell phone to text or making calls while driving. When driving through an active posted school or posted work zone, you cannot physically have a cell phone in your hand why transiting this area.



Mr. Nadar brought up the possibility of having DPD officers work at businesses that are public venues past 11 pm and serving alcohol. Chief Organvidez said he would not support having off duty officers working inside public establishments, but he did say it would approve officers working from the parking lots. It avoids any conflict of interest that may occur by having an officer routinely working inside these types of establishments.

#### 7. New Business

- 8. Discussion of next meeting agenda items.
- 9. Future Meeting Date
- 10. Adjournment: Meeting adjourns at 2:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Wesley Roddy, Secretary
Motion to approve the minutes of the September 26, 2019 Police & Traffic Advisory Board Meeting made by Board Member Pales and seconded by Board Member Wesley Poddy  Radys Nader, Chair
Frank Vaio, Vice-Chair Wesley Roddy, Secretary Armando Chanlatte, Board Member David Yglesias, Board Member
APPROVED and ADOPTED this 23 <sup>rd</sup> day of January 2020.
Radys Nader, Chair
DAVIO Yglesias