



PALM BEACH POLICE DEPARTMENT
OFFICER OF THE MONTH
June 2015

Detective Adam Piña

Based on your keen investigative skillset and proactive mindset, you have been nominated and named by the Awards Committee and the Director of Public Safety as the Palm Beach Department's Officer of the Month for June 2015.

While working a directed patrol plain-clothes assignment to combat thefts, you observed a white male riding a bicycle, fitting the description of a suspect wanted in connection to stealing items from unsuspecting victims on the beach. You approached the suspect who immediately confessed to have just stolen a purse from the beach and was still holding the stolen items under his arm. Upon further questioning, you were able to garner a rapport with the suspect and get him to confess to several other thefts from the beach. You found the suspect was responsible for three other similar crimes over the past week. By staying aware of Detective Bureau bulletins and targeting the public beach in an effort to apprehend a suspect, you were able to locate the subject in the act of committing a theft, before the victim was aware any items had been taken.

The following day, you observed a white female sitting in a parked vehicle attempting to hide from you as you passed by in an unmarked police vehicle. You approached the vehicle to investigate this strange behavior and immediately observed the female in the act of injecting heroin into her body. You also discovered a small child, who was later found to be her son, just inches away from exposed syringes and other items of paraphernalia on the floorboard. You recovered heroin, drug paraphernalia, crack cocaine, and a crack pipe. Fearing for the boy's safety, you contacted DCF who initiated a case regarding the incident. The child was later turned over to an uncle.

Your proactive work and keen investigative intuition led to the successful apprehension of two subjects while in the process of committing illegal acts. In a span of two days and through your direct efforts, 4 criminal cases were cleared.