



PALM BEACH POLICE DEPARTMENT
OFFICER OF THE MONTH
January 2015

Officer Dean Morea

Based on your proactive enforcement and tenacity, 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 January 2015.

While patrolling your assigned zone, you observed a Blue Lexus go through a red light at the intersection of Royal Poinciana Way and North County Road. You initiated a traffic stop and made contact with the operator of the vehicle, who provided you with a false name and false date of birth in an attempt to disguise his identity. The subject further provided you with conflicting accounts as to the ownership of the vehicle.

As the investigation continued, you were able to determine his real identity as being an individual known to this Department as being part of a group of auto thieves from Riviera Beach that target the Town of Palm Beach. This group had been responsible for multiple auto burglaries and vehicle thefts in the past several months.

With this knowledge, you determined the owner of the vehicle was a Town resident at [REDACTED]. Upon contact being made with the owner, you found that the vehicle was recently stolen from his driveway. It was also learned that two other vehicles in his driveway were also broken into. Based on the information gathered, you were able to arrest the suspect for Grand Theft Auto, two counts Burglary to a Conveyance, and Giving False Name to Law Enforcement.

Because of your diligence and your proactive enforcement, you were able to recover a stolen auto before it was even discovered missing and before it had a chance to leave the Island. You also apprehended a suspect that is responsible for auto thefts and auto burglaries on Palm Beach.