



# MONROE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

## RICHARD A. RAMSAY, SHERIFF

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December 28, 2020

Marathon City Council

Ref: Monroe County Sheriff's Office  
City of Marathon  
Monthly Report: January 2021

Dear Council,

Enclosed report provided to keep the Council informed of the ongoing business within the City of Marathon addressed by the Sheriff's Office. Issues include arrest and major crimes, concerns for public safety, quality of life issues, Marine Unit, areas of concern, suggestions for crime prevention and community involvement.

Lt Mark Jones has taken over as the new Station Commander for Marathon. Capt. Derek Paul was promoted to the Islamorada Substation. Since taking the reins, Lt. Jones has hit the ground running with numerous projects to benefit the City of Marathon. Sgt. Leon Bourcier has been promoted to the vacant Sgt position. Several new Deputies have joined us recently and are doing well.

### **End of year stats:**

2020 was challenging but the Monroe County Sheriff's Office in Marathon had tremendous success. Marathon continues to lead the entire county with overall performance and statistics even with the COVID 19 challenges.

Calls for service: 49,574  
Arrest: 846  
DUI Arrest 129



UCR (Uniformed Crime Report) is how the Monroe County Sheriff's Office, and the nation, tracks cases. This shows not only how we track what type of cases but how effective we are at solving them. Marathon again leads the County with overall performance. Marathon Deputies and Detectives had a 50.5% clearance rate. The national average at 24%. Crimes have been very low overall and as you can see, we have been very successful clearing them when they do occur.

Monroe County overall has a seen a reduction in crime by 50% in the last 5 years.

Marathon Substation is proud of the partnership we have with the community. As you will see, Monroe County Deputies continue to lead by example with community clean ups, graffiti removal and volunteering. This past Xmas, Deputies did a food and clothing drive for needy family's as well as raised cash among themselves to purchase Publix food cards for 4 families in need.

### **Crime/Arrest Report:**

**MCSO20OFF00806: Robbery**

**Reported: December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

**Occurred: 1275 Manor Lane**

Deputies responded to a physical domestic, whereupon the victim stated that she had several injuries caused by her boyfriend, Tommy Orlando Alo. According to the victim, Tommy busted down the bedroom door, grabbed the victim's belongings and

Threw them in the canal, then threw the victim onto a pool table. When the victim tried to call 911, Tommy snatched the phone out of her hand and smashed it in the ground and then tossed the phone into the canal along with her purse. Deputies found evidence at the scene which supported the victim's testimony, but could not make contact with the suspect.

Detective Bragg investigated this case and obtained an arrest warrant for Alo, who was later served and charged with battery, robbery by sudden snatching, and obstruction. Case closed by arrest.

**MCSO20OFF008021: Aggravated Battery**

**Reported: December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

**Occurred: 1248 O/S Hwy**

Deputies responded to a family disturbance whereupon the victim reported that he just returned to the dock on the charter boat that he was captaining when an argument occurred between the victim and the defendant, Brad Picariello. Picariello grabbed a large boat anchor on the dock and began attempting to throw it at the victim multiple times. The defendant then obtained a large metal fishing gaff with an exposed hook and began swinging it at the victim. The defendant subsequently struck the victim three times in the right arm, lower body and left arm. The defendant then threw the gaff in the water and attempted to tackle the victim. The victim was able to jump on the defendant's back in an attempt to hold him down and stop the assault. The defendant then head butted the victim which lacerated the inside of his lip causing it to bleed. The victim's step mother and boat mate came to the aid of the victim and helped restrain the defendant so the victim could escape to safety and call 911.

**MCSO20OFF005874 : Illegal Dumping**

**Reported : September 17, 2020**

**Occurred : 15th Street and US1**

Det. O'Neill, along with road patrol deputies, have begun investigating an ongoing issue w/ subjects dumping trash at the corner of the intersection. Det. O'Neill had a pole cam installed and reviewed the footage. Several subjects and vehicles were observed on camera view dumping garbage. Det. O'Neill is investigating still and charges may be pending. Dep. Szymanski observed one subject dumping trash and issued a UTC for littering. Det. O'Neill also identified Marino Sanchez as one of the suspects dumping trash at the corner.

Over the course of the investigation, surveillance video showed the large amount of trash found on the corner was not one singular person dumping trash in excess of 15lbs, but a culmination of several individuals placing their trash there. Several persons have been stopped and ticketed while attempting to commit the non-criminal infraction of littering. Enforcement has resulted in no additional trash being dumped at the location. Case closed, other prosecution.

## Marine Unit

The Marine Unit has been very busy working with FWC and U.S. Coast guard on issues in Boot Key Harbor. Several violent crimes, including a murder, have occurred in the non-buoy area of the harbor. A joint task force was formed and we have been issuing notices for derelict vessels, sanitation violations and other violations. Numerous citations have been issued. We expect to have a full report by the end of January.



Multiple complaints over wake violations on the Coco Plum canal entrance due to not having wake zone signs in place. Monroe County funding is being worked on for sign replacement in all Monroe County waterways but will not be ready until 2022. With the help of Cecilia Hitchens from Monroe County Planning and Marine Department and Shawn Cannon from the City of Marathon Parks Department, I was able to obtain two no wake signs to be placed on the property at the entrance of the canal to remind boaters of the "No Wake Zone".

## Community involvement



Before and after. Sgt. Slough, Deputy Westerland, and Deputy McDonald found two persons illegally camping behind Gulf side Village. They made the two campers leave their campsite and remove the trash they created.



Deputies attended a Jet Ski operator class. Riva Motor sports donates 2 wave runners each year for patrol and enforcement.

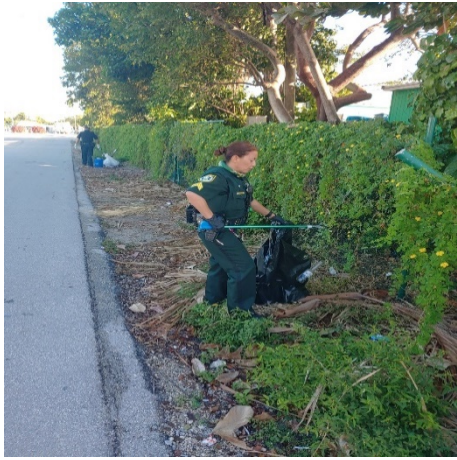


Throughout the holidays, Deputies volunteered time for the Salvation Army.



Deputies continue to address graffiti. Sheriff Ramsay has zero tolerance for this. Commanders have 24 hours to remove once discovered.





Sgt. Lissette Quintero, Deputies Mompont, Douthirt, McDonald, Daniels, Leird and Lt. Jones doing a cleanup on 15<sup>th</sup> Street. We called the owner Greg Konrath of Marathon Garbage Service who sent us a truck. Deputies removed over 500 lbs of homeless debris from the right-of-way and had 2 derelict vehicles removed.



Assisted with escorting the City of Marathon veteran's parade.

**Personnel and Budget:**

Currently 1 deputy down with one in training. No budget concerns at this time.

Respectfully,

Capt. Don Hiller

Cc: George Garrett  
Diane Clavier