



MONROE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

RICHARD A. RAMSAY, SHERIFF

March 02, 2021

Marathon City Council

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

Dear Council,

February was very busy with tourist and traffic. Deputies responded to over 4,456 calls for service this month. Even with COVID issues, Deputies still were able to make 83 arrest and Notice to appear cases and 10 DUI investigations. Deputies spent a significant amount of time policing the boat ramps. While extremely busy, all were orderly with very little issues. Numerous accidents and pedestrian fatalities have been a huge issue throughout the Keys this month. Due to the issues, traffic stops this month were 709.

Marathon Deputies continue to make an impact in our community with local clean ups and community projects.

No significant crimes or crime trends to report.

Planning continues for the 40th Annual 7 mile bridge run scheduled for April 17, 2021.



Crime/Arrest Report:

MCSO20OFF007954: Fraud

Occurred: Seawatch Condos

The Condo association board members were tasked with renovating several units. An employee of Seawatch Condos, Brenda Jennings, was tasked with managing the renovation project. As part of her duties, Jennings obtained a purchase quote from Century Plumbing Wholesale for building supplies and presented the quote to the board. The board agreed and provided Jennings with a total of (4) checks to purchase the supplies. The first check was given to Jennings near the end of October, 2020. A day after receiving the check, Jennings created a business and a business bank account under the name Century Wholesale. Jennings ordered and paid for the building supplies through Century Plumbing Wholesale, to be delivered to Seawatch Condos as promised.

Detective O'Neill is investigating this case. Seawatch Condos turned over Jennings' work computer and cell phone to Det. O'Neill, where Det. O'Neill discovered original email exchanges between Jennings and actual building material suppliers. A subpoena has also been prepared for Jennings' bank account information. Det. O'Neill has developed evidence which suggests that Jennings increased the price of certain items on the invoices that she presented to Seawatch Condos and then ran the purchases through her own business in a scheme to defraud Seawatch Condos.

Suspect bank account records were obtained by subpoena which verified that Brenda Pamela Jennings, did submit quotes to her employer for construction supplies from Century Plumbing Wholesale Inc. in the amount of \$59,357.37. The actual amount quoted to Jennings from Century Plumbing Wholesale Inc was \$36,272.45. Jennings then deposited the checks into her accounts, wire transferring the supplier the \$36,272.45 and keeping the remaining balance of \$23,084.92. **Case pending arrest. \$20,000 bond.**

Thousands of dollars in stolen tools/items found in traffic stop

Thousands of dollars in stolen Home Depot tools and supplies were found in a car stopped for speeding Saturday evening in Key Largo and a Miami man was arrested.

Osmany Zambrana-Dominguez, 46, was charged with driving with a suspended license and grand theft. He also had multiple out-of-county warrants for his arrest. Deputy Jason Farr stopped the Ford Fusion at approximately 6 p.m. on U.S. 1. There was a litany of items in the backseat all labeled with a number that came back to the Home Depot store in Marathon. One item, a tankless water heater, still had the anti-theft cable attached to it. A smorgasbord of drills, water heaters, air filters, straps, buckets and other

items totaling more than \$3,151 were found in the backseat. The Home Depot store manager confirmed the items were missing from their inventory.

Zambrana-Dominguez was taken to jail.

Men arrested after drugs found

Two Marathon men were arrested on multiple drug charges, including trafficking in fentanyl, Monday following a traffic stop. Christopher Thomas Flingos Sr., 51, and Michael Richard Goode, 45, were both charged with trafficking fentanyl and cocaine. Goode was additionally charged with possession of Ecstasy.

Deputy Aaron Roddy stopped a car at approximately 5 p.m. on the Sadowski Causeway (the entry/exit road to Key Colony Beach) for speeding in a 45 mph zone and illegal window tint as well as for the driver — Flingos — who was not wearing a seat belt. Goode was the passenger. Goode had a warrant for driving an unregistered motor vehicle.

K9 Coral responded and alerted to drugs in the vehicle. Approximately 1.2 ounces of fentanyl, 1.1 ounces of cocaine and five Ecstasy pills were found in the vehicle. Both men were taken to jail.

Marine Unit



Dep Guerra went out with a subject he had observed in possession of a queen Conch. The subject who was identified as Ulysses Casanova stated that he was the sole harvester of the queen conch's and that he did not know they were protected. At that time, subject Casanova was issued a notice to appear on March 16 2021 at 9am with Judge Becker in Marathon FL



Dep. Guerra made contact with subject Reidel Carrandi while he was diving ocean side by the mangroves. When he observed the subject, he saw him place a spiny lobster inside his wet suit. He made contact with the subject and asked him if I could inspect his catch. As subject Reidel removed the spiny lobster out of his wet suit, he observed a wrung spiny lobster tail fall out of his suit. At that time he asked him to remove all the lobster out of his wet suit. An inspection of the spiny lobster revealed three wrung in the water spiny lobster tail and 4 spiny lobsters. Subject Reidel was found to be in possession of three wrung and undersized spiny lobster tails, 3 under sized whole spiny lobsters and 1 legal spiny lobster for a total of 7 spiny lobsters in his possession. Subject Reidel was issued an N.T.A notice to appear for March 16 2021 with Judge Becker and the Marathon Court House.

Community involvement

We have been seeing more migrant vessels leaving Cuba due to the worsening condition with the arrival of covid 19. All around the keys, there are more migrant vessels showing up but not being disposed of due to not having state nor federal funding. Coco Plum beach has been the site of many migrant arrivals and vessel wash-ups in the past but they have all been addressed and removed with County State, County, or City Funding which is not presently

available. With the assistance of the City of Marathon, Ports Master and Marathon Public works, and other volunteers, we were able to float one of the vessels which was aground in a sensitive turtle nest area, and gather them in the entrance of the Beach where they were taking by Florida keys towing to the dump.





Personnel and Budget:

Currently 1 deputies down. No budget concerns at this time.

Respectfully,

Capt. Don Hiller