



MONROE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

RICHARD A. RAMSAY, SHERIFF

March 5, 2023

Marathon City Council

Ref: Monroe County Sheriff's Office
City of Marathon
Monthly Report: February 2023

Dear Council,

February was a very busy and active month. Deputies responded to over 5,837 calls for service this month. Deputies were able to make 99 arrest and Notice to appear cases and 9 DUI investigations. Numerous accidents and pedestrian accidents continue to be a huge issue throughout the Keys. Extra patrols produced traffic stops this month that totaled 690.

Planning is currently underway for the Marathon Seafood Festival, Offshore Boat races and the 7 Mile Bridge Run.

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

No significant crimes to report but a crime trend we are still seeing is Fraud. Mail is being stolen/intercepted and deposited into other accounts. Several arrest have been made and our investigation is continuing.



Crime/Arrest Report:

MCSO22OFF004799: Check Offense, Reported June 15, 2022, occurred: Blue Marlin food store

Victim reported that an unknown white male came in to the store and cashed two checks between April 2022 and May 2022. The checks ended up showing as already deposited via mobile app resulting in the business losing \$546.62. Checks were issued to a juvenile in the area whose mother handles them. Mother advised she had been the victim of fraud before and never reported it. Case is still on going. Awaiting subpoena returns for bank info.

MCSO22OFF006151: Fraud, Reported August 4, 2022 Occurred: Marathon Substation

Victim had a fraudulent check cashed by a third party. Subpoena sent for the account holder information. Suspect identified and a warrant was drafted and signed for his arrest. **Richard Cinteas arrested in Miami-Dade County for petit theft and unlawful use of PII.**

MCSO22OFF006420: Vehicle theft, Reported August 13 2022 Occurred: 2345 Sombrero Boulevard

Victim had his 2019 Ford F250 stolen in the middle of the night from his home. Possible suspect seen driving through the area at that time. Vehicles also seen leaving county together. R/O out of state at the time but several calls/texts were made to another number before/during/after the theft. Awaiting subpoena results to ID the driver/possible suspect. **Search warrant sent to T Mobile for historical cell site data pending results.**

MCSO22OFF004643: Fraud, Reported May 3, 2022 Occurred: 11100 Overseas Highway

Victim called to report fraudulent transactions on the businesses bank account. All transactions were located and suspects identified except one. Awaiting local PD in Charlotte for positive ID and warrants being drafted. **3 Warrants issued in this case, working with Charlotte County for pick up.**

MCSO22OFF008975 Check Fraud

Victim sent a \$1,700 check by mail to a local business, check intercepted and mobile deposited. Case is linked to several other check frauds within the same time frame. Subpoena sent to bank, **ONGOING INVESTIGATION.**

MCSO22OFF009561 Grand Theft

Yandry Rivero reported his flatbed trailer stolen from the area of avenue B. No hits on the LPR, no contact with Yandry and the site supervisor is helpful in the least. BOLO issued and placed into F/NCIC as stolen. Trailer was kept unsecured on an open lot under construction with 100+ people that had access and a four day time delay. Nothing seen so far in the area but still sifting through the data. Ongoing.

MCSO22OFF007892 Fraud, Reported October 9, 2022, Occurred: 240 Sombrero

Diana Machado reported that she fell for a phone scam in which she gave away her credit card information and several fraudulent transactions were made. Subpoena returned with transactions no useful information obtained looking into further routes of investigation.

MCSO23OFF000164 Check Offense, Reported January 6, 2023, Occurred: Bonefish Towers

Charles Cassidy called in to report suspicious activity in his bank account. Appears that suspect fraudulently wrote himself a check that he then cashed while fixing drywall in Cassidy's home. Awaiting BOA video footage to positively ID suspect.

MCSO23OFF000275 Check Offense, Reported January 10, 2023, Occurred: 237 W Seaview DR

Pamela Daniels had a check for \$395.00 intercepted through the mail and fraudulently mobile deposited into an account other than the one she wrote it to. Ongoing investigation.

MCSO23OFF000366 False Report to LEO, Reported January 13, 2023, Occurred: 9500 Aviation Boulevard

Elvis Ruiz and Ramon Garcia Guevara made a false report of a stolen vessel. Vessel was confirmed to never enter Monroe County and through historical cell site data it was learned that the meeting that Elvis and Ramon reported never could have occurred. **Elvis and Ramon arrested on their warrants and possible third suspect identified.**

MCSO23OFF000480 Check Offense, Reported January 18, 2023, Occurred: 107 Street Gulf

Robin Ridgemann called to report that two checks had been fraudulently cashed from Keys Contracting services. The checks were for ATT for the phone bill in October and November for 301.31 and 311.30. Checks were linked to the ongoing mobile deposit frauds committed by the Izquierdo Crime family. **Suspect identified for the check in the amount of \$301.31 – warrants being written**

MCSO23OFF000729 Check Offense, Reported January 26, 2023, Occurred: 10875 7th Ave Gulf

Sean Sayer reported four checks were intercepted in the mail and fraudulently cashed for a total of \$35,000. Checks show links to similar suspects.. **Beginning warrant process.**

MCSO23OFF001095 Grand Theft & Deal in stolen property - Isla Bella Beach Resort.

Humberto Oliva is a employee at resort and stole chain from room he was servicing. Humberto attempted to pawn necklace but was not satisfied with estimate and left with chain. Necklace is valued at \$8,000 dollars according to victim. Humberto was identified through surveillance and management at resort. After interrogation, Humberto confessed to theft. Warrant issued. **Awaiting arrest.**

MCSO23OFF001612 Agg Assault - Flamingo Inn.

Khara Wilson and Ashley Seiple claim while sitting outside of residence drinking, Ashley's boyfriend, Christopher Collins appeared from wooded area and brandished firearm. Christopher proceeded to point the firearm at them and demand to get inside the residence. Christopher fled on foot after. Detectives went to Christopher's residence and could not make contact. Christopher was contacted by phone and stated the accusation against him was false. Christopher claimed hours before the incident occurred, he left the county with his uncle because of a family emergency. Through investigation, this was deemed false and when I attempted to recontact Christopher, his phone was turned off. **Investigation ongoing.**

MCSO23OFF000662 (Business Burglary) Deputy Mortenson responded to 7 Mile Grill reference a business burglary that occurred the night prior. The manager Joshua Francisco showed video of Benigno Cruz Torres entering the restaurant through a back gate and stealing 12 bottles of Budweiser beer out of the refrigerator and placing them in his backpack before leaving. Deputy Mortenson was able to identify Benigno from prior law enforcement contact. Within 30 minutes, Deputy Mortenson and Deputy Mompont located Benigno Cruz Torres and Deputy Mortenson arrested him for Burglary and Petit Theft. Benigno still had 7 bottles of Budweiser beer in his backpack that were returned to 7 Mile Grill. Closed ARREST.

Community involvement



Deputy McGraw and others spoke with Mrs. Francisco's third-grade class.



Deputies Dully and Mortenson "deputize" some children from Britain by giving them Junior Deputy stickers.



The Hill's attended the Cub Scouts an American Flag retirement ceremony.

Marine Unit:



Loading migrants onto Coast Guard vessel

Water safety info on aboard the Marine vessel



Personnel and Budget

Currently 2 deputies down and all recruits released this month. No budget concerns at this time.

Respectfully,

Capt. Don Hiller