



MONROE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

RICHARD A. RAMSAY, SHERIFF

Date: August 18, 2026

To: Marathon City Council

From: Lt. Benjamin Elmore

RE: Monroe County Sheriff's Office City Monthly Report

Dear Council,

Enclosed is the District 4/5 City Monthly Report for July 2026. July saw a slight increase in overall activity compared to June. District 4/5 personnel continued to provide exceptional law enforcement services throughout July while managing the increased operational demands associated with the Independence Day holiday, summer tourism, and mini-lobster season.

Despite staffing challenges created by vacant positions, approved vacations and training, FMLA leave, a member on worker's compensation, and pending personnel transfers, the district maintained operational coverage, redistributed workloads as needed, and continued to deliver a high level of service to our residents and visitors. Patrol deputies maintained a proactive enforcement presence throughout the month, handling more than 3,500 calls for service while supporting numerous community events, neighborhood cleanup initiatives, and holiday outreach activities. Charlie Squad successfully managed increased seasonal activity despite reduced staffing, while the Marine Unit conducted focused enforcement efforts during mini-lobster season to promote boating safety and protect marine resources.

The Criminal Investigations Unit continued to produce significant results despite reduced staffing for most of the month due to a member's FMLA leave. Detectives secured multiple felony arrests and closed several major investigations, including a theft case from Surf Style, the Bad Ash vessel burglary, the arrest of a suspect responsible for the DEA impersonation and jury duty scam resulting in more than \$31,000 in losses, and the arrest of a suspect in a machete assault. Investigators also advanced numerous fraud, financial crime, burglary, and grand theft cases through search warrants, surveillance, subpoenas, and close coordination with the State Attorney's Office and partner agencies, ensuring several additional cases continue moving toward prosecution.

Overall, District 4/5 personnel demonstrated professionalism, resilience, and teamwork throughout a demanding summer month, maintaining public safety, strengthening community partnerships, and delivering measurable enforcement and investigative results despite staffing challenges.

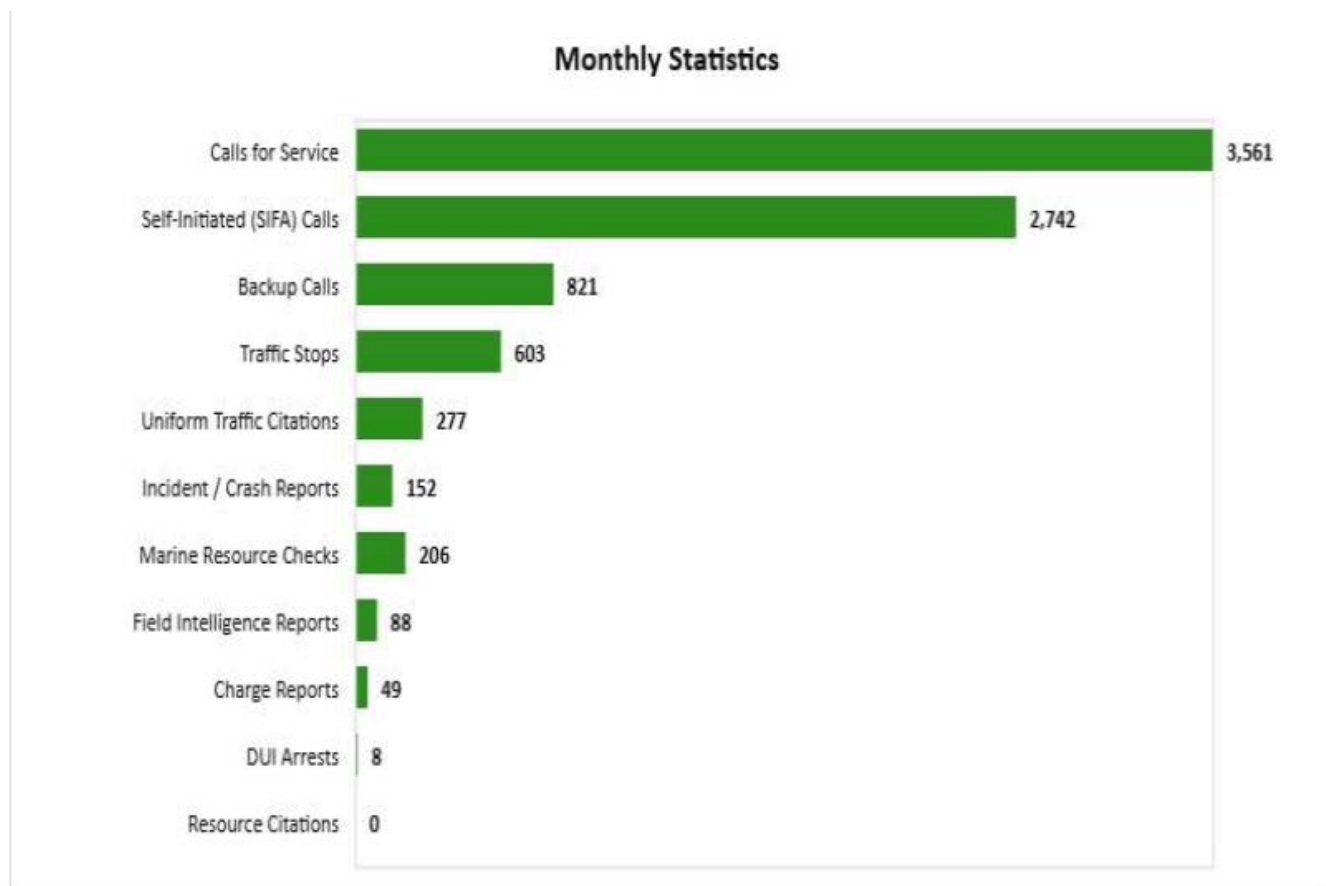
Thank You,

Lieutenant Benjamin Elmore

Station Commander District 4/5 Patrol

Monroe County Sheriff's Office

Monthly Statistics



Special Cases/ Arrest Highlights:

Deputy J. Martinez - Alpha Squad

MCSO26OFF004318 - Petit Theft- Winn Dixie- management requested a report following an internal investigation done by Roger Decker the Regional Asset Protection Manager where between 05/05/2026 - 06/10/2026 at various times Daniel Morin was seen repeatedly using universal product code 7205863424 to pay a lesser price for items and observed failing to scan merchandise at the self-checkout register. A warrant affidavit was created and Daniel was subsequently arrested.

Deputy J. Martinez - Alpha Squad

MCSO26OFF004518 - Enforceable - Dollar Tree 109th- An Investigation revealed Aaron Hall was in violation of a court-ordered full no contact order with a protected victim. Surveillance video from Schmitt realty and Keys Strength showed Aaron exiting the passenger side of a red Jeep driven by the victim. Review of the video and 911 call confirmed the pre-trial release violation. A warrant was created and Aaron was subsequently arrested in Boynton Beach.

Deputy J. Martinez - Alpha Squad

MCSO26OFF004807 - Grand Theft- Arctic Temp- Yens Heredia called to report employee Barbaro Giocochea Vita stole \$1,200 in cash from his employer. Barbaro was trespassed from the business. A warrant was created and Barbaro was subsequently arrested.

Deputy A. Del Cueto - Bravo Squad

MCSO26OFF004579 - Aggravated Assault-Brass Monkey: The victim reported being chased by a male with a machete in the parking lot after a verbal altercation. Dep. Del Cueto took the initial report, and the case was forwarded to CIU. The suspect was identified as Pablo Rivero. A warrant was obtained for Pablo's arrest, and he was taken into custody on 07/18.

Deputy J. Marino - Bravo Squad

MCSO26OFF005007- Dep. Marino responded to a report of a male at 7770 Aviation Blvd. who was deceased with a gunshot wound to the head. Responding Deputies secured the scene which was later turned over to MCU. The squad handled the preliminary investigation exceptionally well. following proper procedures to preserve the scene, gather initial information, and ensure a thorough and seamless transition to detectives. Members received praise from the investigators for their work.

Deputy D. Peterson - Charlie Squad

MCSO26OFF004565 - Death Investigation- Boot Key Harbor- Male victim was intoxicated the night prior and appeared to have fallen and hit his head before falling in the water. Found the next day floating in the water deceased. Squad worked together on retrieving the decedent from the water, transported him to Coast Guard station. MCU responded to investigate.

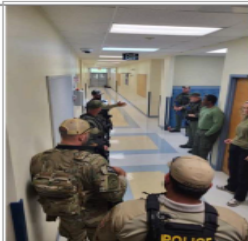
Deputy D. Peterson - Charlie Squad

MCSO26OFF004749 - Death Investigation- 227 Sombrero Beach Rd- 84-year-old Male victim was found floating in the water. Deputies and good Samaritans retrieved the male from the water and began life saving efforts. male was pronounced deceased by Fire Rescue. Video was obtained from a nearby residence showing the male by himself before falling into the water. MCU responded to investigate.

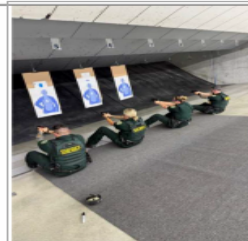
Deputy J. Metzger-Delta Squad

MCSO26OFF004944 - Resource Check 33st Boat Ramp Amanda Privett was issued 1 NTA for Lobstering after dark with no measuring device or dive flag.

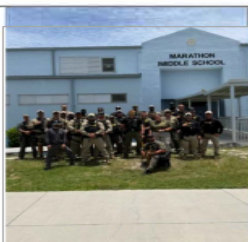
Training:



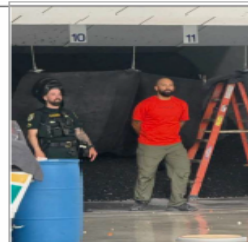
Multi agency active shooter training



Bravo shift worked on positional shooting derived from FDLE counter ambush course.



Multi agency active shooter training



Bravo shift enjoying ARMS training



Sgt. Hill attended the FASRO training for basic SRO training

Community Involvement:



Over 2000lbs of trash removed during 15h St. cleanup



Lt. Elmore returning shopping carts



4th of July at Sombrero Beach



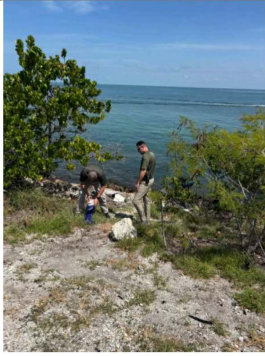
Captain Paul and State Representative Jim Mooney at the Marathon Chamber of Commerce's July Member Luncheon.



Mini Season



Mini Season



Mini Season



Mini Season



4th of July Parade



Donation for Deputy McGraw



Deputy Minor's retirement



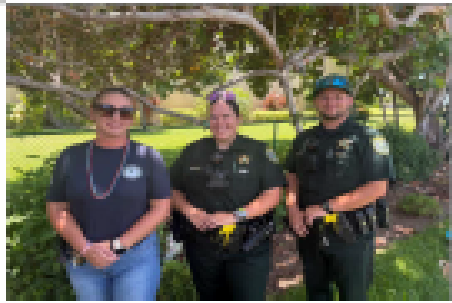
Fourth of July pie with the nurse at the Hospital



assisting these two ladies with some document paper at the clerk of court in Marathon



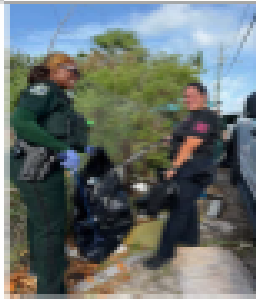
KCB 4th OF JULY BBQ



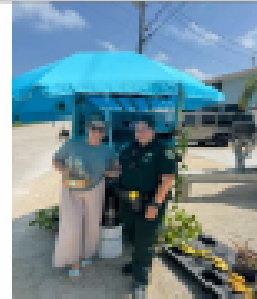
4th of July Community Contact Winn Dore



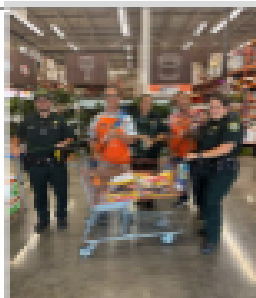
15 St Clean Up



15 St Clean Up



75th St Bake Sale



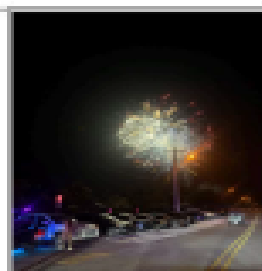
Home Depot Donation w/ Lt. Moon and Dep. Martinez



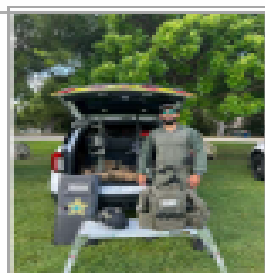
Sgt. Slough and Dep. Guerra perform a resource inspection during lobster mini-season.



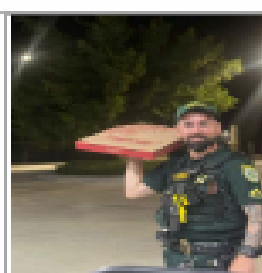
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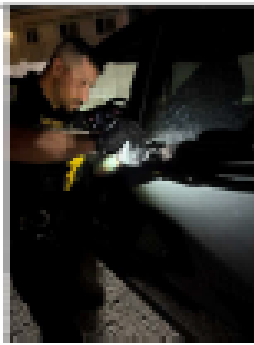
Bravo shift members attended 4th of July event Sombreno Beach



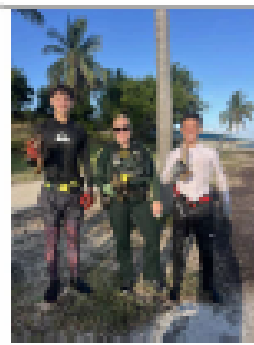
Sgt. Rivas attended Founders park summer camp event



Dep. Marino delivered pizza to Fisherman's Hospital staff.



Dep. Gil dusting for latent prints during vehicle burglary investigation.



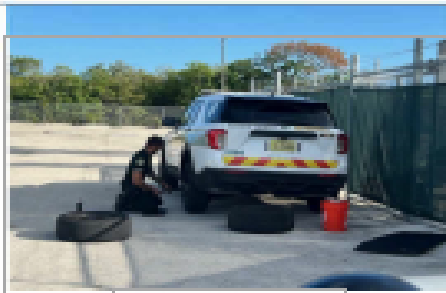
lobster mini season 7 mile bridge



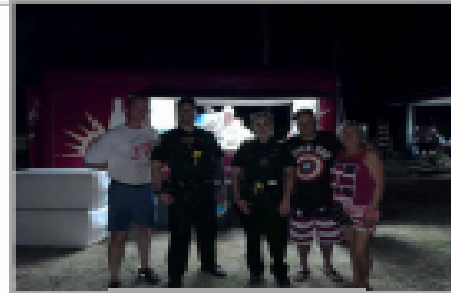
cozo plum beach clean up



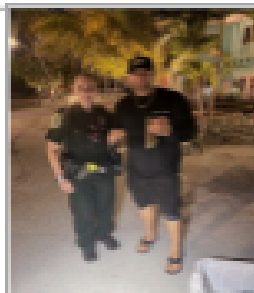
Fourth of July Event, Picture with people.



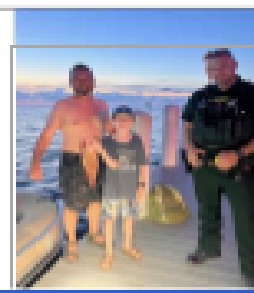
Casanova changing a tire



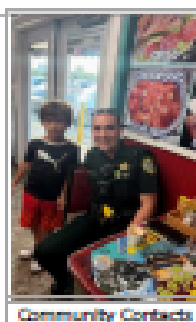
Shift working Fourth of July



D/S Del Gueto out checking resources for mini season



D/S Metzger out checking resource for mini season.



Community Contacts

Marine Unit:

(July 2026 **Activity** Summary

During the month of July 2026, I responded to and documented 107 CAD calls for service. In addition, I conducted approximately 106 enforcement and public-safety contacts during the July 4th holiday and the two-day Spiny Lobster Mini-Season, which also included a three-hour nighttime patrol conducted the evening prior to the opening of mini-season.

Due to the extremely high volume of activity and the continuous, back-to-back nature of enforcement operations in heavily congested areas occupied by divers and vessel operators harvesting spiny lobster, these mini-season contacts were not individually entered into CAD.

In addition to my marine enforcement responsibilities, I also assisted Road Patrol by responding to calls for service and dispatched incidents due to staffing shortages, helping maintain law enforcement coverage throughout the county during periods of increased demand.

The 2026 Spiny Lobster Mini-Season was one of the quietest mini-seasons I have worked. Despite the high volume of vessel traffic and divers throughout Monroe County, there were no major injuries, no fatalities, and no significant resource violations reported. The successful outcome reflects the proactive enforcement efforts and strong cooperation between the Monroe County Sheriff's Office, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC), and our partner agencies.

Monthly Activity Totals

107 CAD calls for service

106 enforcement and public-safety contacts during the July 4th holiday and the two-day Spiny Lobster Mini-Season

Over 300 total marine contacts

3 misdemeanor arrests

80+ vessel stops

3 vessel citations

30 warnings issued



First day of Lobster mini season



First day option mini season



First day, Lobster mini season



Second day mini Lobster season first violation



Day two mini season second violation



Day 2 mini season inspection



Three misdemeanor resource case