



# 2015 Annual Report

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**Plantation  
Police Department**

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# Table of Contents

Message from Chief W. Howard Harrison.....	1
Mayor and City Council Members .....	2
Officer of the Year.....	3
School Resource Officer Awards.....	4
Awards.....	5
Officer of the Month Awards.....	6
Statistics.....	7
Grant Funding.....	8
Legal Department/Internal Affairs.....	9
Communications.....	10
Records and Property Units .....	11
K-9 Unit .....	12
Juvenile Unit .....	13-16
Community Awareness.....	17
Community Fundraisers.....	18
Plantation Police Community Outreach Center.....	19-21

## *Chief W. Howard Harrison*



I would like to welcome you to the Plantation Police Department's 2015 Annual Report. I am very proud of this agency and the dedicated men and women who serve this community. Our department is accredited both nationally and on the state level through the Commission on Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation. Our department is staffed with 169 full-time sworn officers, 92 full-time civilians, 5 part-time officers and 13 part-time civilians (279 total) who are committed to the principles of community policing.

The Plantation Police Department's Mission Statement expresses the goal of the agency to improve the quality of life for the citizens of Plantation through a partnership with the community that promotes safe and secure streets and neighborhoods.

W. Howard Harrison

Chief of Police



## **Mission Statement**

**We the members of the Plantation Police Department are committed to being responsive to the community in the delivery of quality law enforcement services.**

**We recognize our responsibility to maintain order, while affording dignity and respect to every individual.**

**Our mission is to improve the quality of life for the citizens of Plantation through a partnership with the community that promotes safe, secure streets and neighborhoods.**

# Mayor



As a resident of Plantation for over 50 years, I have had the privilege of growing up in a community that truly sets itself apart, with its signature brick features throughout the City and beautifully landscaped, tree lined streets. From a dozen one-acre homesteads along a few small streets, into a thriving City, Plantation has grown to become one of the most desirable communities in South Florida. It is located in the center of vibrant, urban Broward County, boasting the warmth of the Florida sunshine, a casual lifestyle, premier recreational parks and facilities within aesthetically appealing neighborhoods, and lively, successful business districts.

# Council Members



Council President  
Chris Zimmerman, AIA



President Pro Tem  
Ron Jacobs



Councilmember  
Dr. Robert Levy



Councilmember  
Lynn Stoner



Councilmember  
Peter S. Tingom

## *Officer of the Year*

### **OFFICER CASEY MITTAUER**



It is an honor and a privilege to present Officer Casey Mittauer with the Officer of the Year Award for 2015. Officer Mittauer attended the 193<sup>rd</sup> Session of the Broward College Police Academy and graduated in 1999. Officer Mittauer has spent his whole career assigned to the Road Patrol Division. The Road Patrol Division's main responsibility is to respond to calls for service and to prevent and detect crimes that occur against the citizens and visitors in our city.

Officer Mittauer takes this responsibility to an extremely high level and with enthusiasm. There is a common saying in law enforcement that a great officer needs to be in the right place at the right time and Officer Mittauer does just that by always patrolling his assigned zone(s).

Officer Mittauer was awarded the Officer of the Month Award in July 2015, March 2014, and July 2012, June 2006 and also nominated for the award in January 2013. A review of these award write-ups revealed a pattern of a truly dedicated police officer. In several of the write-ups there is a common theme that Officer Mittauer has conducted proactive traffic stops on vehicles and also vigilantly patrolled his assigned zone(s). Because of this tenacity, he has made citizen contacts which resulted in numerous arrests for criminal activity.

In addition to being awarded the Officer of the Month Award four times, Officer Mittauer was also the department's second runner up for the Officer of the Year Award in 2013 and 2014.

# School Resource Officer Awards

On July 7, 2015 Officer Wade Walcott was named the Pam Bondi/FASRO 2015 School Resource Officer of the Year. This prestigious award is bestowed upon an officer that demonstrates dedication and a tireless work ethic to enhance the lives of the students they serve. Officer Walcott, a 23 year veteran of the Plantation Police Department, is currently assigned as the School Resource Officer of Plantation Middle School. This award is given each year to only one School Resource Officer for the entire State of Florida and was presented to Officer Walcott by the Florida Office of the Attorney General during the 2015 NASRO and FASRO Conference held in Orlando. This award was based on the exceptional work performed by Officer Walcott during the 2014-2015 school year.



On August 20, 2015, Officer Walcott was presented with the 2015 Officer of the Year (Civic) Award for the City of Plantation. He was presented this award for the excellent work he exhibited at Plantation Middle School throughout the school year.



## 2015 School Resource Officer of the Year.

On December 15, 2015 Officer Sander Entus received this award as the outstanding School Resource Officer of the City of Plantation for the 2015-2016 school year.

# *Awards*

## Distinguished Performance Awards

### January 2015

Captain Bruce Finney, Sergeant Scott Lustigman , Sergeant Craig Stalker  
Officer Lori LeGette, Principal Office Assistant Connie Karns,  
Senior Office Assistant Tracy Kaswinkle, & Office Assistant Vickie Hammett

### March 2015

Public Safety Dispatcher Tarra Hernandez

### April 2015

Officer Craig Boermeester, Officer Christopher King, Officer Thomas Bickham  
Officer Anthony Montagnino, & Officer James Walters

### September 2015

Communications Manager Kevin Grams

## Life Saving Awards 2015

Officer Ricardo Padron , Matthew Morrissey, Officer Andrew Klein and Officer Michael Umpierre

## Commendation Awards 2015

Sergeant James Dourvetakis, Sergeant Eugene Petrino, Detective Phillip Toman,  
Detective Marshall Clark, Detective Lance Schurkman, Officer Melissa Johns, Officer  
Adam Rigg, Officer Stephen Morrissey, Officer James Walters and Officer Nelson Diaz  
and Retired Detective James Murray

Pubic Safety Lead Dispatchers Deidamia Rojas and Kimberly Hoo-Chong

# *Officer of the Month*

## Officer of the Month

*January* — There was no officer selected

*February* — Officer Jeffrey Young

*March* — Officer Jacob Steele

*April* — Officer Todd Smith

*May* — Officer William Latham

*June* — There was no officer selected

*July* — Officer Casey Mittauer

*August* — There was no officer selected

*September* — Officer Todd Smith

*October* — Officer Robert Hogg

*November* — Officer Joseph Miller

*December* — Officer Aaron Vandenhouten

# Statistics

CRIME TYPE	2013	% CHANGE	2014	% CHANGE	2015
Murder	4	-25%	3	-33%	2
Sex Offenses	14	29%	18	0%	18
Robbery	124	-21%	98	19%	117
Aggravated Assault	129	13%	146	-8%	134
Residential Burglary	596	-30%	415	-25%	310
Burglary Structure/Other	109	-26%	81	26%	102
Larceny	1475	-4%	1415	-2%	1393
Burglary Conveyance	774	-14%	663	66%	1100
Auto Theft	136	30%	177	51%	267
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3361</b>	<b>-10%</b>	<b>3016</b>	<b>14%</b>	<b>3443</b>

## CALLS FOR SERVICE



CFS	TOTAL	% CHANGE
2013	62191	
2014	66752	7%
2015	71266	7%

Communications Unit Stats	2013	2014	2015
911 Calls	57,580	55,580	64,705
Non- Emergency Calls	162,113	162,329	163,200
<b>Total Calls</b>	<b>219,693</b>	<b>217,909</b>	<b>227,905</b>

## *Grant Funding*



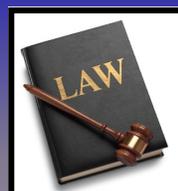
### **Department Awarded Grant Funds for New Technology**

The Department applied for and was awarded grant funds through the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant to implement new hardware technology devices which will provide enhanced functionality to traffic enforcement officers when issuing electronic citations. The current devices lack the capacity, speed and additional features due to a limited operating system. The new devices will allow officers to perform multiple enforcement tasks, ensuring officer safety and the ability to run driver license information, teletype queries and capture photographs on scene.

### **Department Awarded Grant Funds from the U.S. Department of Justice – Bulletproof Vests**

The Department applied for and was awarded grant funds from the U.S. Department of Justice, Bulletproof Vest Partnership (BVP). The funds will be used to purchase bulletproof vests which are a critical resource in saving lives. Based on data collected and recorded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), in FY 2012, protective vests were directly attributable to saving the lives of at least 33 law enforcement and correctional officers. At least 14 of those life-saving vests were purchased, in part, with BVP funds. Due to the increase in the number of law enforcement deaths and efforts to improve officer safety, Departments must certify at the time of application that they have a written mandatory wear policy.

## *Legal/Internal Affairs*



In 2015, the Broward County Chiefs of Police Association Committee on Domestic Violence Injunction Process in Broward County, Florida was formed in order to come together in the mission of better serving victims of domestic violence through the injunction process. Our Legal Advisor, Melissa Presser was appointed by Chief Harrison to be a part of this groundbreaking committee. One of the key recommendations presented by the committee was related to opening up the regional courthouse locations for victims to file for emergency protections from their abusers. On January 13, 2016, Chief Judge Peter Weinstein entered an Administrative Order permitting the filing of petitions for emergency injunctions to be accepted at all of the regional courthouses. The first regional courthouse to open was in our very own city, the West Satellite Courthouse! Due to the hard work of the committee during 2015, restraining Orders can now be obtained at the West Satellite Courthouse.

### **Administrative Inquiry Complaints**

<b>Pending</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2</b>

## *Communications*

On May 11 and 12, 2015, the Communications Mock Assessment was conducted by assessors from Boca Raton and Coral Springs Police Department. Nick Haupt, Accreditation Manager for the Boca Raton Police Services Department, and Patrick Thurman of the Coral Springs Police Department, both assessed 212 standards for the Communications Center, providing invaluable feedback to proceed with our actual on-site assessment.



### 2015 CALEA Communications

#### On-site Assessment

Assessors: Chief Rick Pinksaw, Team Leader from Emporia, Virginia Police Department and Lieutenant Tanya Perry, Team Member from Conyers, Georgia Police Department, reviewed 212 standards for compliance. Communications was awarded re-accreditation and received the award at the Miami Conference in November 2015.

## *Records Unit*

The City of Plantation Police Department has adopted a new system for submitting and tracking all public records requests. In an effort to enhance efficiency for the public and expedite the processing of requests, the Plantation Police Department Records Division activated its recently purchased GovQA software on the City's website. The software will help the City track open records requests across multiple departments, standardize records processing and fulfill requests in a timely manner.

## *Property Unit & Quartermaster*

The Property Unit is responsible for the care, custody and disposal of physical evidence, found property and other items held for safekeeping. In 2015, the Property Unit conducted two narcotic destructions and a jewelry auction. The auction generated \$66,000.00 in revenue. The proceeds were deposited into the City of Plantation's General Fund. Throughout the year, the unit received and packaged 8,048 evidentiary and property items. 40,382 items were purged and destroyed from property.

The Quartermaster detail issues police uniforms, equipment and supplies department-wide. During 2015, the Quartermaster detail also issued all new tasers and raincoats.

**The Property Unit maintains the highest standards of  
professional ethics and integrity.**

## *K-9 Unit*



**In 2015, The K-9 Unit made 69 apprehensions and completed 2,660 hours of training.**

**In January 2015, Sgt. Wendt was promoted to Lieutenant and his K-9 partner "Arko" was retired from service. Lieutenant Wendt continued to supervise the day to day operations of the unit until his replacement Sgt. E. Ryan completed K-9 School. On February 16, 2015, Sgt. E. Ryan began K-9 patrol school with his new K-9 partner "Mick". Sgt. Ryan replaced Sgt. Wendt as the K-9 Unit Supervisor in July 2015.**

**K-9 Ofc. Dorr attended and completed a 256 hour K-9 Team Detection Instructor's course beginning in February and concluding in April. Officer Dorr joins K-9 Officer Vandenhouten as the second instructor in the unit.**

**In 2015 the K-9 Unit changed their uniform colors from black to green. The color change gives K-9 officers a tactical advantage in the field as the new color blends into the environment. A new K-9 Unit patch was also added to the new uniforms.**

**The City of Plantation started replacing K-9 vehicles with new sport utility vehicles. The Department purchased two 2015 Ford Explorers for the K-9 Unit. The new vehicles provide more room for the officer, their K-9 partner, and greater storage for equipment. In addition, the vehicles have all wheel drive, which helps officers maneuver through hazardous conditions.**



## *Juvenile Unit*

### *G.R.A.D.E.*

**G.R.A.D.E. stands for Gang Resistance And Drug Education. This 10 week program is taught by the GRADE Officers from the Plantation Police Department to 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Students at the City's 6 Public Elementary Schools, which includes Plantation Park Elementary, Plantation Elementary, Tropical Elementary, Central Park Elementary, Peters Elementary, and Mirror Lake Elementary. This program is additionally taught to the 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Students of some of the city's Private Schools including Imagine Charter, Ben Gamla, St. Gregory Catholic School, American Heritage, Our Savior Lutheran School, and The Blake School. These students received information on gangs and drugs, but additionally received education on internet safety, bullying, esteem issues, how to deal with conflicts, laws, and the distinction between leaders and followers. The GRADE Program continues to be an outstanding program that not only provides valuable educational methods for our City's youth, but fosters a relationship between young adults and the law enforcement community.**

### *Explorer Program*

**The Plantation Police Department's Police Explorer Program continues to be an outstanding mentorship program in which the youth are not only verbally educated about the law enforcement profession, but also receive scenario based education and exposure. Members of the Plantation Police Explorers attended a Broward County Police Explorer Academy during the week of June 8 through June 12, 2015, which is held each year at the Broward Criminal Justice Institute in Davie, FL. Participants are taught curriculum related to the profession, and how to work as partners towards the resolution of scenario based tasks. At the conclusion of the Police Explorer Academy, each participant was awarded a certificate of completion.**

**The Plantation Police Explorers participated in the following community events:**

- The Holiday Safety Festival was held on October 24, 2015. The Police Explorers operated two booths where food and drinks were sold.**
- The Holiday Parade was held on November 28, 2015. The Police Explorers operated a booth where food and drinks were sold.**

**Proceeds earned through these two events were placed in the Plantation Police Explorers account for equipment and future police explorer competitions.**

# *Juvenile Unit*

## *Crime Watch Plantation Middle School*

The Plantation Police Department hosted a Plantation Middle School Crime Watch field trip on Monday, March 16, 2015. The students of this program ranged in age from 11 to 14 and participated in the schools Crime Watch program. This program was supervised by Ms. Jenise Benjamin, a School Campus Monitor. Because of their hard work, the crime watch student members were rewarded with a tour of the police department as well as a meet and greet with members of our agency. The youth of this program were provided a presentation from the Communications Division, the Criminal Investigations Division, K-9 Unit, Traffic Unit, Street Crimes Unit, S.W.A.T., Crime Scene Unit, Bike Unit, and the Training Division. As a result, the youth of the program expressed gratitude during the day's event and expressed a greater appreciation for the law enforcement profession. A special thanks to the Plantation Middle School Crime Watch Team and Officer Wade Walcott for coordinating this event.



# *Juvenile Unit*

## *Civil Citation Program*

The Civil Citation Program, which is authorized by Florida State Statute 985.12, provides an innovative alternative to formal arrests for any juvenile under 18 years of age. This program is specific to juveniles under 18 who have committed first time misdemeanor offenses. Citations may be issued to a juvenile in up to two subsequent misdemeanor offenses as well. Depending on the needs of the juvenile, program administrators may either mandate that 50 hours of community service are met or require participation in intervention services such as family counseling, urinalysis monitoring, substance abuse treatment, and mental health treatment. After successful completion of the program, the juvenile's record will be closed with a disposition reflecting that the program was successfully completed.

In 2015, Plantation Police Department referred 71 juveniles to the Broward County Civil Citation Program. Of those referred, 65 successfully completed the program, 2 juveniles obtained new law violations while assigned to the program and 4 juveniles were discharged for non-compliance.

## *Juvenile Unit*

### *2015 Plantation Women's Club Bike Awards- Plantation Elementary*



### *2015 Plantation Women's Club Bike Awards- Peters Elementary*



**The Plantation Women's Club donated brand new bikes and helmets to elementary school students who were the recipients of the Award.**

The acronym B.I.K.E. stands for Be Intelligent Kind Enthusiastic. This program was created to encourage students to work hard in school, produce a positive report card during the second and third quarters, and have exceptional behavior. The grades they received produced points, in which each participant had to earn a total of 1,500 points in order to earn a bicycle, a helmet, and a lock.

## Community Awareness



### SEXUAL VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND EDUCATION CAMPAIGN

Denim Day is an event in which individuals are encouraged to wear jeans in order to raise awareness of rape and sexual assault victims. This is the fourth Year Plantation Police Civilian Employees participated in



THERE IS NO EXCUSE AND NEVER AN INVITATION TO RAPE

### Take a Stand

October is Domestic Violence Awareness month. Plantation Police Department civilian employees participated by wearing purple to **Take a Stand** and remind the community there are still countless victims impacted by domestic violence.



Take a stand

Take a stand against domestic violence.



Breast Cancer Awareness

JOIN US IN THE FIGHT

Breast Cancer Awareness Month, focuses on increasing awareness of the disease and looking for early warning signs. Early detection can save lives. Plantation Police Department promoted Breast Cancer Awareness in the month of October by wrapping one of our marked police cars with the slogan "**Fight Against Breast Cancer**" and included a pink hood with the slogan "**Breast Cancer Awareness Month**".

## Community Fundraisers



Thanks to all the employees who participated and contributed to the Annual Bake Sale. A total of \$618.00 dollars was raised for the Special Olympics to help raise awareness about the abilities of people with intellectual disabilities.



The Plantation Police Department participated in the Tip-a-Cop fundraising event at Buffalo Wild Wings, located in the Westfield Broward Mall. This event is held to increase awareness and raise money for Special Olympics.

## *Plantation Police Community Outreach Center*

**The Plantation Police Department Community Outreach Center hosts numerous events throughout the year which benefit the community and helps promote awareness to residents. Here are a few events hosted by the Center:**

- **The Summer Safety Splash Event**
- **Drug Take Back Program**
- **Halloween & Safety Festival**
- **Holiday Toy Drive**

**The Center also offers programs to the citizens of Plantation, such as, the S.A.L.T. (Seniors and Law Enforcement Together) program. This organization is geared towards citizens who are 50 years of age and older who are active at community events. Members also receive awareness education on financial and distraction crimes.**

**The Mature Drivers course is offered to give seniors basic defensive driving education and safety tips.**

**The Citizen's Police Academy offers a 9 week course for residents who are 13 years of age and older who want to learn more about their police department and see first hand demonstrations of specialized units.**

# Plantation Police Community Outreach Center—*Citizen's Academy*



On November 16, 2015, 47 students graduated from the Citizen's Police Academy.



Officer Jeff Beauregard and a Citizen's Police Academy student demonstrate the effects of being impaired by using simulation goggles.



K-9 demonstrations for the Citizen's Police Academy was held at Happy Tails Park



# Plantation Police Community Outreach Center—Community Involvement



Westside Regional Hospital held their annual Summer Safety Splash event where members of the Plantation Police Department provided safety awareness tips, police demonstrations and provided free bicycle helmets for children.



Officer Gene Nelson and Lynn Braden collected unwanted and unused prescription and non prescription drugs for the DEA drug take back event in October, 2015.



## Keeping our Community Safe

The Plantation Mobile Information Trailer was donated by the Plantation Woman's Club. This device will be utilized to deliver important messages to the community and may be used to measure and display speed.



Every year, the Plantation Historical Museum pays tribute to the holidays with its free "Christmas Magic" exhibit. Volunteers create magical Christmas trees and holiday displays for the public to enjoy. The Plantation Police Department Outreach Center decorated a Police themed tree for the holiday display.



Hilda Lambert celebrates her 98th Birthday at a S.A.L.T. meeting at the Outreach Center.

# *Plantation Police Community Outreach Center—Community Involvement*

## *Halloween Safety Festival*



On October 24, 2015, the Plantation Police Explorers participated in the Annual Halloween Safety Festival held at Volunteer Park. The festival was sponsored by the City of Plantation's Parks and Recreation Department and the Plantation Police Department. Residents enjoyed the children's carnival with bounce houses, pony rides, puppet shows, a haunted house, Fire Safety Exhibits, K-9 Demonstrations, live music and prizes.

## *Holiday Toy Drive*



The Plantation Police Community Outreach Center held their Annual Toy Drive for numerous families in the City. Deputy Chief Finney and Lynn Braden represented the Police Department by visiting and handing out toys to children at Plantation General Hospital who were not able to be home for Christmas. Over 300 toys were donated by the community for the children.