

Sarasota Police Department

Sworn Employee of the Year

Officer J. D. Miller

In 2015 Officer J.D. Miller was assigned to patrol in the south district of the City of Sarasota. During the year, he responded to 1069 incidents, made 37 warrant arrests, 31 felony arrests, and 21 misdemeanor arrests.

Just a few highlights from the past year include an apprehension of a Fugitive from Justice he observed and contacted at the Circle K convenience store located at 77 S. Tuttle Avenue. He also apprehended several subjects involved in a Petit Theft at Southgate Mall as a result of a traffic stop of a vehicle he observed matching the description of a vehicle.

In June 2015, Officer Miller responded to a call reference Grand Theft. The victim advised a roll of 35 feet of copper wiring was taken from a demolition site and the suspect was possibly a labor employee who helped the previous day. Officer Miller spoke with several coworkers and a witness about the incident. He contacted the suspect and was able to obtain an admission to taking the copper wire and selling it for profit. The suspect was subsequently arrested for Grand Theft.

Not only does Officer Miller respond to calls for service, he is also extremely proactive and embodies the philosophy of community policing. Every shift Officer Miller participates in the department's "Stop, Walk, and Talk" program by exiting his vehicle and walking around in parks, business areas, and locations of high criminal activity or suspicious activity. By doing so, he is able to engage with citizens to build community partnerships and provide safety tips such as preventing home and vehicle burglaries.

With the department facing a sudden increase in the number of new police officers, Officer Miller volunteered to re-enter the Field Training Officer program when it was needed most. Officer Miller trains our new officers on policies and procedures, handling calls for service, and aspects of community policing.

For his proactive efforts in the south district of Sarasota and for molding the future of our department by being a Field Training Officer, the Sarasota Police Department is proud to present Officer J.D. Miller as Sworn Officer of the Year, 2015.