



# **NORTH MIAMI** **POLICE**

*Making a Positive Impact*



## 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

**PROTECT • SERVE • UNITE**

*A Year of Community Engagement*



**NORTH MIAMI POLICE DEPARTMENT**

700 NE 124 Street | North Miami, FL 33161

[NorthMiamiPolice.com](http://NorthMiamiPolice.com)

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## Department Statements

### VALUES

Respect, Integrity, Courage,  
Empathy, Unity, Professionalism



### MOTTO

"Making A Positive Impact"

### MISSION STATEMENT

As members of the North Miami Police Department, we will:

Build community trust through transparency and engagement.

Respect the sanctity of life through quality training, de-escalation, community policing, and effective communication.

Enhance youth opportunities through mentoring and involvement.

Strengthen our Police Department's culture through respect and professionalism.

Establish high standards for supervision, total inclusion, and development.

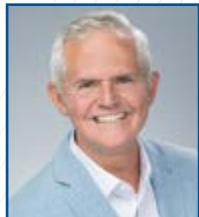
## Elected Officials



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## Police Command Staff



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## City Administration

# Message from the Chief

It is with great pleasure and a sense of pride that I introduce to you the North Miami Police Department's 2023 Annual Report. As we gather to reflect on the milestones, challenges, and accomplishments of the past year, it is important to recognize the dedication and hard work of our officers and professional staff who work tirelessly to serve our North Miami community.

2023, was a year of transition for the North Miami Police Department. Chief Larry Juriga retired in March and I was sworn in as the new Police Chief in August. Thank you to Chief Juriga for his years of dedicated service as the Chief of North Miami Police Department. As your Chief of Police, I am honored to serve and protect our vibrant and diverse community. I will champion the principles of 21<sup>st</sup> Century Policing; transparency, accountability, and community engagement. I vow to cultivate a department culture that values these principles, and what I refer to as the 3 Cs; Community policing, Compassionate policing and Constitutional policing.

Throughout this past year, our department has remained committed to our core values of Respect, Integrity, Courage, Empathy, Unity, and Professionalism. We have strived to uphold these values in every interaction, response, and initiative undertaken in the service of our community.

In reviewing the contents of this report, you will find a comprehensive overview of the various initiatives, programs, and operations that have been conducted by our department over the past year. From community engagement events to crime prevention efforts, from emergency responses to proactive policing strategies, each section of this report reflects our ongoing commitment to ensuring the safety and well-being of all North Miami stakeholders. Most notably, as violent crime has increased in most cities across the nation, the North Miami Police Department reports a 16% decrease in violent crime.



This year, after a grueling three-year process, under the leadership of retired Police Chief Larry Juriga, the department obtained accreditation from the Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation. This is a great accomplishment and demonstrates our department's commitment to upholding the highest standards of law enforcement.

I am particularly proud of the collaborative partnerships that we have fostered with community organizations, local businesses, and local, state, and federal partners. These partnerships have been instrumental in enhancing our ability to address complex issues, tackle emerging challenges, and implement innovative solutions.

As we celebrate the achievements detailed in this report, we also recognize that our work is far from over. We remain steadfast in our dedication to continuous improvement, striving to learn from past experiences, adapt to changing dynamics, and respond effectively to the evolving needs of our community.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the members of our community for their unwavering support, cooperation, and trust. It is through our collective efforts and shared commitment to public safety that we are able to build a safer, stronger, and more resilient community for all.

In closing, I invite you to explore the pages of this report and reflect on the progress we have made together. I look forward to 2024 with optimism and determination, let us remain united in our pursuit of a stronger and safer North Miami for generations to come.

Sincerely,

*Cherise Giordani Gause*  
Cherise Giordani Gause  
Chief of Police



# A Real-Life Superhero: Celebrating Chief Larry Juriga's Legacy

March 5, 2023, marked the end of an era. After 29 years of service to our North Miami community, we commemorate the retirement of our beloved Chief Larry Juriga. We celebrate a life woven from the threads of service, justice, and a love for this very community that runs so very deep.

For almost 3 decades, Chief Larry Juriga walked our streets, not just as an enforcer of the law, but as a friend, a confidante, a bridge between uniforms and people, justice, and hope. Chief Larry Juriga's connection to the City of North Miami began well before he became a police officer. Home grown, is a quite fitting expression when speaking of Larry Juriga. For many many moons ago, Larry Juriga was born in what was then the North Miami General Hospital (formerly located where now Mater Academy sits).

Growing up in an apartment building that now sits at 1790 NE 117 Road, he developed a deep connection with the community from an early age. No doubt that the impetus for his desire to serve his community, came from his father, who was a North Miami Police Officer throughout Chief Juriga's childhood and early adulthood. At the age of 16, Larry Juriga was hired by the City of North Miami Parks and Recreation Department. He served as a youth camp counselor throughout high school, mentoring younger kids. After graduating high school, Juriga, received both an academic and athletic scholarship to attend Barry University. However, even with the demands placed upon a collegiate athlete, Juriga continued his employment with the City, helping to positively shape the lives of many youth. "Making a Positive Impact", would prove to be Chief Larry Juriga's mantra throughout his career.

After earning a Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice from Barry University, Larry Juriga was recruited and received a job offer from the United States Secret Service, to serve as a Special Agent. However, Chief Larry Juriga's love and passion for his North Miami community, trumped all, as he decided to follow in his father's footsteps, and become a North Miami Police Officer. Little did he know, this decision would shape the course of his life and the lives of countless others.

After graduating at the top of his police academy class, early in his career, Larry Juriga exhibited true dedication and a knack for police work. Because of his investigative prowess, he was selected to become a detective. During his time in the Detective Bureau, Detective Juriga successfully investigated various violent cases to include robbery, kidnapping, and homicide. In one kidnapping case, three young children were abducted and held hostage for ransom. Detective Larry Juriga at the time, and his colleagues, worked the case, generated leads to locate the victims, and ended up taking down three armed kidnappers, thereby safely rescuing the 3 kids.

In an effort to take on ancillary duties while being a Detective, Juriga then applied and successfully completed Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) training. Said training has a high washout rate, and most applicants fail to successfully complete the practicum. Over the next 12 years, Larry Juriga was a SWAT Operator with hundreds of high-risk missions under his belt, one of which included a hostage rescue, in which a man was holding a knife to a victim's neck. The hostage was rescued and unharmed.

Throughout his distinguished career spanning almost 30 years, Larry Juriga was recognized for his outstanding achievements on several occasions. He earned countless awards, commendations and unit citations, one of which he earned for capturing two subjects who had just terrorized a family during a violent home invasion robbery. Throughout the next several years of his service, Larry Juriga rose through all the ranks of the chain of command. He was promoted to the ranks of Sergeant, Lieutenant, Commander, Major, Assistant Chief, and in 2018, Chief of Police. It was as Chief of Police that Larry Juriga truly left an indelible mark on this agency and community. John C. Maxwell is credited with saying, "A leader is one who knows the way, goes the way, and shows the way." Chief Larry Juriga, did just that. He walked the walk. Always leading by example, and from the front. His work ethic and dedication to the community

he served, was second to none. Many community members will attest to Chief Larry Juriga seemingly always being everywhere, as he would show up at every community event or initiative.

Upon becoming Chief of Police, Chief Larry Juriga formulated the Police Department's culture. He created the Department's 6 core values, and its motto of "Making A Positive Impact."

Although Chief Juriga stands an impressive 6 feet, 5 inches tall, and is built like an NFL linebacker, his humility has been one of his most notable attributes. No matter who he interacted with, he had a knack for making everyone feel special and important. Many in his command staff would be bewildered, at the fact that Chief Larry Juriga gave his cell phone number to all members of the community and made himself available to anyone who asked. And, if you ever called him, you could also attest to the fact the he always answered.

Chief Juriga demonstrated countless leadership qualities including humility, expertise, and his unique ability to project a clear vision and strategy. Furthermore, the size of his heart, matched his bigger than life physique. He patrolled our streets, ensuring the safety of our families, and became a familiar face to many in the neighborhood. His exemplary work often went beyond the call of duty, earning him the nickname of "Superman", and not just because of his resemblance to the Man of Steel. Beyond the badge, Chief Larry Juriga became an integral part of the community's fabric. He engaged in numerous initiatives aimed at building bridges between law enforcement and local residents. Whether it was organizing neighborhood watch programs, participating in school outreach events, countless community engagements, or simply taking the time to connect with local residents. Who can forget his weekly bike rides on Thursdays, as Chief Larry Juriga donned his highlighter yellow "Peace Officer" shirt and made countless community visits. Residents have commented on Chief Larry Juriga making house calls delivering food, flowers, and on several occasions, money to families in need.

There is no doubt, that he demonstrated a genuine commitment to the well-being of those he served. No one will forget the work he did with various foundations and organizations involved with childhood cancer. He ceremoniously swore-in as an officer, Jeremiah, a 5-year old boy, who has since lost his battle with cancer. Chief Juriga commented that such was one of his most cherished actions, as Chief of Police.

With the retiring of Chief Larry Juriga from our Police Department, the North Miami community comes together to express gratitude for his years of selfless service and sacrifice. The Positive Impact that he has made on our City is immeasurable, and his legacy will endure as an inspiration for future generations of law enforcement officers. His retirement not only marks the end of an era for our Police Department, but it also serves as a celebration of a remarkable individual who dedicated his life to the service of others. As we bid farewell to our "Superman," we express our deepest gratitude for his sacrifices, accomplishments, and the enduring legacy he leaves behind.

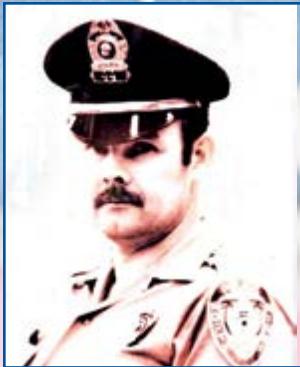
Chief Larry Juriga is a true hero, an inspiration, and a friend. May his retirement be filled with joy, peace, and all the happiness he so richly deserves. His legacy lives on in the hearts and minds of everyone he touched. He made this City a better place, and for that, we will forever be grateful. **Thank you, Chief Larry Juriga.**



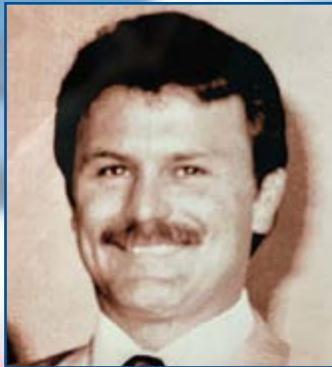
# Fallen Officers' Memorial

IN MEMORY OF THOSE WHO SERVED

The North Miami Police Department  
acknowledges and fondly remembers our beloved colleagues...  
whose sudden and tragic deaths left a  
deep void in our Department and our hearts.



**Carl Wallace Mertes**  
END OF WATCH  
November 5, 1980



**Steven Ernest Bauer**  
END OF WATCH  
January 3, 1992



**Lynette Hodge**  
END OF WATCH  
November 16, 1993



NEVER FORGOTTEN



# 2023 HIGHLIGHTS

During the past year, the North Miami Police Department underwent significant changes and celebrated milestones of progress. Throughout the year, the department remained dedicated to its mission of serving and protecting the community with integrity, professionalism, and compassion. A significant event that marked the year 2023, was the swearing-in ceremony of our new Chief of Police, Cherise G. Gause. With over 30 years of experience in law enforcement and a proven track record of leadership, Chief Gause brought a wealth of knowledge and a fresh perspective to our Department. The swearing-in ceremony was a momentous occasion, symbolizing not only a change in leadership but also a new chapter in the history of our Department. Chief Gause's dedication to community engagement, transparency, and innovation instills confidence and sets the stage for continued progress and excellence in policing, thereby taking our department to new heights.

In April 2023, Officer Nickerline Montina earned her "Motor Wings." Officer Montina is a 6-year veteran of the North Miami Police Department. She is the first woman in the history of the Department to become a member of the Traffic Safety Unit. Officer Montina is also the first Haitian American Motorwoman in all police departments in Miami-Dade County. In order to earn her wings, Officer Montina endured 80 grueling hours of Motor School, including motorcycle handling, hand and eye coordination, wheel placement, proper braking techniques, throttle and clutch control, and preventive maintenance.

Prior to training, Officer Montina had never ridden a motorcycle. When asked how Officer Montina feels about her accomplishment, she stated, "It is a little difficult to describe my accomplishment because it is still surreal. But I am proud knowing that not only have I accomplished one of the most difficult training schools, but I have done so as a female and become the first female motorwoman with the agency. This training has taught me that anything is possible as long as you have heart and work hard to make it a reality. It also has taught me that I can accomplish anything if I put my mind to it."

Also, May 9, 2023, was officially named Officer Nickerline Montana Day! The City of North Miami Council rewarded Officer Montina with a Proclamation for her display of courage and actions



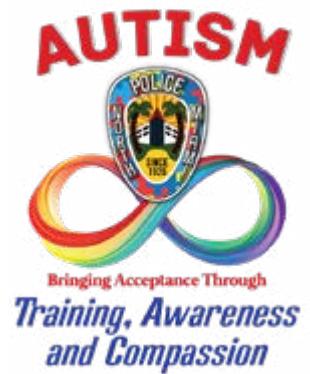
under pressure, which thwarted a devastating shooting situation and possibly saved the lives of many in June of 2022.

We are proud to have such a professional and courageous officer in Officer Montina. We congratulate her on her accomplishment and wish her much success. Thank you, Officer Montina, for "Making a Positive Impact."

# Autism Awareness & Acceptance Caravan



On April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023, the North Miami Police Department hosted their 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Autism Awareness and Acceptance Caravan. This initiative aims to shed light on Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), a developmental condition impacting communication, social interaction, and behavior. With approximately 1 in 36 children diagnosed on the Autism spectrum, community awareness becomes crucial. Beyond awareness, the emphasis lies on fostering acceptance within our communities. This year's caravan featured 50 vehicles from 26 tri-county South Florida police agencies, with over 80 police motors units assisting in the escort. Officers engaged with children on the Autism spectrum during visits to the South Florida Autism Charter School and Crystal Academy.





## National Night Out

National Night Out enhances the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement while bringing back a true sense of community. Furthermore, it provides a great opportunity to bring police and neighbors together under positive circumstances.



## Supporting Childhood Cancer

North Miami was the first police agency to permanently keep their car wrapped in gold and joins the Mystic Force Foundation at events throughout the year to bring joy and happiness to kids battling cancer. The initiative was started by Silvia Vanni in an effort to bring more awareness to childhood cancer and the dire need for support and increased funding for childhood cancer research. Every year this initiative grows larger and is the only initiative of its kind in the world, proving that South Florida is a true leader in the fight against childhood cancer.

The Mystic Force Foundation was founded in 2008 by Dr. Steven & Silvia Vanni after their then 4-year old son, Salvatore, was diagnosed with Stage IV Neuroblastoma Cancer. Salvatore lost his battle with cancer in 2011 but his legacy continues to change the lives of all children battling this devastating disease.

The North Miami Police Department strives to Make a Positive Impact through Respect, Integrity, Courage, Empathy, Unity, and Professionalism.

The Department partners with the Mystic Force Foundation to bring joy and happiness to children battling cancer through the granting of wishes, providing exciting police car rides and boat rides for the children.



# 2023 Major Accomplishments



- The Department was re-accredited by the Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation having completed all mandatory standards without any standards elected for exemption, any requests for COVID-19 waivers, and without any non-compliance or corrective action discussions.
- Implemented the Guardian Program consisting in part of the Missing Persons Tracking and Recovery Program aimed at reducing the potential for injury or death of individuals with forms of disability who may wander from safe environments.
- Continued weekly Police Bike Rides in the business districts and residential areas to increase community engagement and visibility.
- Continued the use of intelligence-based policing through the use of STAT TRAX and Geographical Information Systems (GIS) applications to identify target areas and trends of concern and communicate said data to patrol officers and investigators to facilitate effective responses and measure performance, resulting in a 16% reduction in violent crime.
- Implemented the use of a bloodhound canine for tracking missing persons, and an emotional therapy canine to provide comfort during a crisis, or emergency event, to Department employees and community members, including children.
- Completed the CAD Enterprise update, which includes the installation of GPS equipment on all Uniform Patrol Vehicles.



- Implemented training produced by the Department of Justice's COPS Training Portal consisting of Community Policing Concepts refresher for all personnel, as well as a training to enhance the mindset of procedural justice and fair and impartial policing. The Department had the second highest enrollment out of all law enforcement agencies in the State of Florida.
- Collaborated with local stakeholders, partnered with the public, and mentored our youth through the Bigs in Blue Program, Police Athletic League, and the Miami Dolphins' Football Unites initiative.
- Continued hundreds of proactive crime prevention details, such as outdoor roll calls and targeted details and investigations to reduce crime and the fear of crime.
- Continued to recruit, hire, train, and mentor the most qualified and diverse workforce, which includes a creative mixture of ages, ethnicities, skill sets, experiences, and socio-economic statuses. Resulting in the hiring of 19 officers this past year.
- Implemented the "Slow Your Roll" traffic safety campaign, resulting in the issuing of over 5,000 citations in a 6-month period.
- Implemented the use of the BOLA Wrap, a restraint device for use by Uniform Patrol Supervisors.
- Continued to collaborate with the Citizens Investigative Board to provide mutual training and understanding.
- In our effort to provide service to our community our officers responded to almost 65,000 calls for service this past year.



THANK  
YOU  
COMMUNITY  
PARTNER



THANK  
YOU  
COMMUNITY  
PARTNER



# ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

## Accreditation

A team of assessors from the Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation (CFA) visited our agency to examine all aspects of the Agency's policies, procedures, management, operations, and support services. On February 23, 2023, the North Miami Police Department was re-accredited, having followed all mandatory standards without any exemptions, without any request for waivers, and without any noncompliance or correction action discussions. Police accreditation is a process through which law enforcement agencies voluntarily undergo an extensive external review to ensure they meet specific professional standards. Achieving accreditation demonstrates a commitment to excellence and adherence to best practices within the law enforcement community.

## Records

The Records Unit is responsible for the efficient management, retention, maintenance, and dissemination of all data and documents generated by the Department. The Records Unit maintains accurate and accessible police report records in compliance with state law. Reported statistical data regarding crimes and calls for service are compiled and made available to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), where it becomes part of the National Uniform Crime Report. The Records Unit also provides service by providing copies of accident reports, incident reports and crime reports.



## Communications

The Communications Unit receives emergency and non-emergency calls for services and determines the proper deployment of police personnel and resources. Police dispatching requires the ability to follow verbal and written instructions, enter data and calls for service in our computer-aided dispatch (CAD), relay orders and information to and from police personnel using telecommunications equipment, make decisions, and multi-task oftentimes while under stressful conditions. The Communications Unit requires critical decision-making while working in a fast-paced environment.

With the utmost Respect, Integrity, Professionalism, Courage, Unity, and Empathy, our Communications Unit provides customer service to callers 24 hours/ 7 days, 365 days a year.

## Property

The Property Unit is responsible for securing all properties that come into the custody of the Police Department. The Unit effectively and efficiently manages, and controls all found, recovered, surrendered, and evidentiary property. Such property ranges from evidence from a crime scene, a prisoner's personal items, and lost/found items. The Property Unit is also responsible for assigning officers' uniforms and equipment along with the emergency office equipment needed for the efficient everyday operation of the Police Department.





Our Training Unit is responsible for instructing North Miami Police Officers in various skills, including firearms training, de-escalation techniques, legal procedures, and community relations. This unit plays a crucial role in ensuring officers are well-prepared for their responsibilities. This includes ongoing education on a range of topics, including law enforcement procedures, physical fitness, crisis intervention, and community policing. The Training Unit ensures that all North Miami Police Officers are equipped with the knowledge and skills necessary to adapt to evolving law enforcement practices and uphold public safety standards. The North Miami Police Department received recognition for its extensive utilization of the Community Training Portal in the State of Florida. Our Department utilized this portal to train sworn and civilian personnel on the following courses:

- Better Encounters: Police and People with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities
- Changing Perceptions: A Fair and Impartial Policing Approach
- Introduction to the Non-Confrontational Investigative Interviewing Approach
- Community Policing: Improving Efficacy and Building Trust

## Recruit Training

In 2023, the North Miami Police Department successfully trained and welcomed 19 new recruits. These new members are committed to protecting and serving the City of North Miami community. Undergoing rigorous training, these recruits focused on law, ethics, firearms proficiency, defensive tactics, de-escalation techniques, and community policing. These recruits are equipped with the skills needed to perform their law enforcement duties and properly serve the City of North Miami.

**NEW HIRES IN 2023:**  
Alyssa Anderson  
Jorge Batista  
Dadier Carlos  
Kevin Crawford  
Roshawnda Davis  
Roberto Fernandez  
Solange Flores-Schachter  
Kerriann Frances  
Gonzalo Garcia  
Zephyr Jean  
Sadel Joseph  
Trenna Laughlin  
Yessury Moody  
Mario Pena  
Jamal Perry  
Alex Pierre  
Bryan Roca  
Jennelle Sewell  
Patrick Smith





## INVESTIGATIVE SECTION

The General Investigations Unit (G.I.U.) is responsible for investigating crimes that occur in the City of North Miami. Detectives within this unit analyze evidence, interview victims, witnesses, and subjects, and collaborate with other law enforcement agencies. Criminal investigations detectives must adhere to constitutional, federal, state and local laws, pertaining to, but not limited to search/seizure, interview and interrogation, line-ups, and arrest situations. Detectives are required to have a working knowledge of such laws, and they investigate all types of cases. These cases range from property crimes, such as fraud, thefts and criminal mischiefs, as well as crimes on persons, such as robberies, batteries, aggravated assaults, and homicides. Detectives also respond to death investigations and missing persons cases. The Unit also has its own Crisis Intervention Specialist, or Victim Advocate. The purpose of the Victim Advocate is to support the provision of services and intervention for victims and their families, with concentration on domestic violence. The Unit also has a Crime Analyst, who collects and disseminates crime data and trends to assist in the prevention, detection, and apprehension efforts of the Department. The Crime Analyst is responsible for analyzing crime reports and statistics, and developing predictive and projective trends of criminal offenders, and of crimes in targeted geographical areas. The members of this Unit take great pride in their function and are often involved in community events to build relationships with their community members, in addition to their investigative efforts.

## ICAC/Human Trafficking Task Force Elder and Vulnerable Adult (Eva) Exploitation Unit

At the North Miami Police Department, we are part of the ICAC (Internet Crimes Against Children) Task Force. This task force specializes in investigating crimes involving the exploitation of children online. Their primary focus is on identifying and apprehending individuals engaged in activities such as child pornography, online enticement, and sexual exploitation. The ultimate goal is to protect children from online exploitation and bring offenders to justice. We are also part of the Miami-Dade State Attorney's Office, Human Trafficking Task Force. The task force is an innovative trauma-informed law enforcement model for the investigation and prosecution of Human Trafficking. This unit encompasses distinguished, highly trained specialized prosecutors, investigators and victim specialists. This task force aims to identify, investigate, and prosecute cases related to human trafficking. Additionally, we have joined the Miami-Dade State Attorney's Office of Elder and Vulnerable (EVA) Exploitation Unit. EVA is one of the first specialized state prosecution units in Florida and the nation dedicated to addressing financial crimes against the elderly. EVA works with various law enforcement agencies to ensure that elderly victims get the care and support they deserve.

# Crime Scene Investigations

Our Crime Scene Technicians are an integral part of the North Miami Police Department's Investigative Section. They play a vital role in the investigative process. Crime Scene Technicians collect, process, and analyze physical evidence from crime scenes. They document and photograph the scene, collect fingerprints, DNA samples, gunshot residue, trace materials, and other relevant evidence. Accuracy and attention to detail are crucial in their work to ensure the integrity of the evidence for legal proceedings. Their work contributes significantly to the criminal justice system by providing critical insights into the circumstances surrounding a crime. The role requires continuous training to stay updated on advancements in forensic technology and methodologies. Our Crime Scene Unit is comprised of three Crime Scene Technicians who are highly trained. Aside from their caseloads, they also participate in community events, career days, and the Citizen's Police Academy. Our Crime Scene Unit is very involved in the overall mission of the Agency.

## Crime Suppression Unit/ Task Force Operations

The Crime Suppression Unit (CSU) is responsible for investigations dealing with organized crime, vice control, street narcotics sales, narcotics trafficking, and money laundering. These specialized detectives often liaise with other law enforcement agencies, gather intelligence, and maintain a close relationship with the community to gather tips. The unit may also engage in surveillance operations and undercover work to monitor criminal activities discreetly. The Crime Suppression Unit is also tasked with assisting in the apprehensions of North Miami's most violent offenders. They also engaged in specialized details to not only enforce the law, but to deter crime. Some members are also detached to the South Florida Money Laundering Task Force, which in 2023, seized a total of \$955,961 in U.S. Currency and 52 lbs. of Marijuana. Additionally, we also have a detective assigned to the U.S. Marshal's task force. As part of this collaboration, the detective actively participates in the apprehension of federal fugitives.

## Crisis Negotiations Team

The Crisis Negotiations Team consists of highly trained police negotiators that play a crucial role in resolving high-stakes situations by communicating and de-escalating tensions to achieve a peaceful resolution. The team is deployed in various situations, such as hostage crises, mental health crises, barricaded subjects, and other volatile situations, to establish communication, build rapport, and work towards a non-violent resolution. The negotiators train



monthly with other police agencies. They specialize in de-escalation techniques, employing communication skills to defuse tense situations. The North Miami Police Department is dedicated to upholding the highest standards in respecting the sanctity of human life, particularly in collaboration with our skilled police negotiators.



## FIELD OPERATIONS

### Uniform Patrol

Uniform Patrol is the largest section of the Police Department, consisting of more than half of the agency's sworn personnel. The section is divided into three shifts: Days, Afternoons, and Midnights. The officers on each shift work under the supervision of three Sergeants and a Shift Commander. Those three Commanders report to the Uniform Patrol Section Major, who reports to the Assistant Chief for Field Operations. The Patrol section also has Public Service Aides (PSAs) who are an integral part of the unit. PSAs respond to non-emergency calls for service where an armed police officer is not required. On average, the Uniform Patrol Section responds to about 65,000 calls for service each year.

Commonly referred to as first responders, Uniform Patrol officers are quick to take action and provide assistance, whether it is for a minor disturbance or a major crime. North Miami Police Officers incorporate the philosophy of Community Oriented Policing into their daily activities. They do this by (1) Building relationships and trust, (2) Identifying and addressing community concerns, (3) Utilizing a problem-solving orientation, and (4) Enhancing public safety through visibility and presence. Just look around the City and you will see our officers patrolling with their lights on for visibility, or at a community meeting or event. By incorporating these principles into their daily work, Uniform Patrol officers play a vital role in fostering a safer, more connected, and more resilient community.

### S.W.A.T.

The Department's Special Weapons and Tactics Detail (SWAT) became operational in 1992. This elite group is comprised of dedicated and highly skilled sworn personnel who are called upon to handle high-risk encounters and critical incidents such as hostage situations, barricaded subjects, and serving high-risk search warrants. Members of the SWAT Team regularly engage in training and education to maintain their skills and knowledge. They participate in specialized courses, workshops, and simulations to stay up to date with the latest tactics, equipment, and procedures. The SWAT team plays a critical role in ensuring public safety and protecting the community from high-risk incidents. They represent the pinnacle of police expertise and training, providing a specialized response to the most dangerous and challenging situations.





## K-9 Unit

The North Miami Police K-9 Unit was first established in the 1940's. This specialized unit is an extremely effective part of the Field Operations Division. Both our K-9 handlers and their partners are highly skilled through continuous training. Members of this unit hold certifications in criminal apprehension, tracking, area and building searches, and narcotics and evidence recovery. Our K-9 unit not only serve the residents of North Miami, but are often called upon to assist various local, state, and federal agencies through joint task forces and operations. Additionally, North Miami is only one of a few police agencies in Miami-Dade County to deploy a bloodhound.

The members of the North Miami K-9 unit conduct demonstrations throughout the year at school and community functions. In addition to apprehension and tracking, in 2023 we welcomed our first comfort dog. Comfort dogs are specially trained canines who provide emotional support and comfort to victims of crime, witnesses of traumatic events, and police officers themselves. Police officers often face demanding and emotionally challenging situations, which can take a toll on their mental health and well-being. Comfort dogs can provide companionship, reduce stress, and promote emotional resilience among officers, helping them cope with the psychological impact of their work.

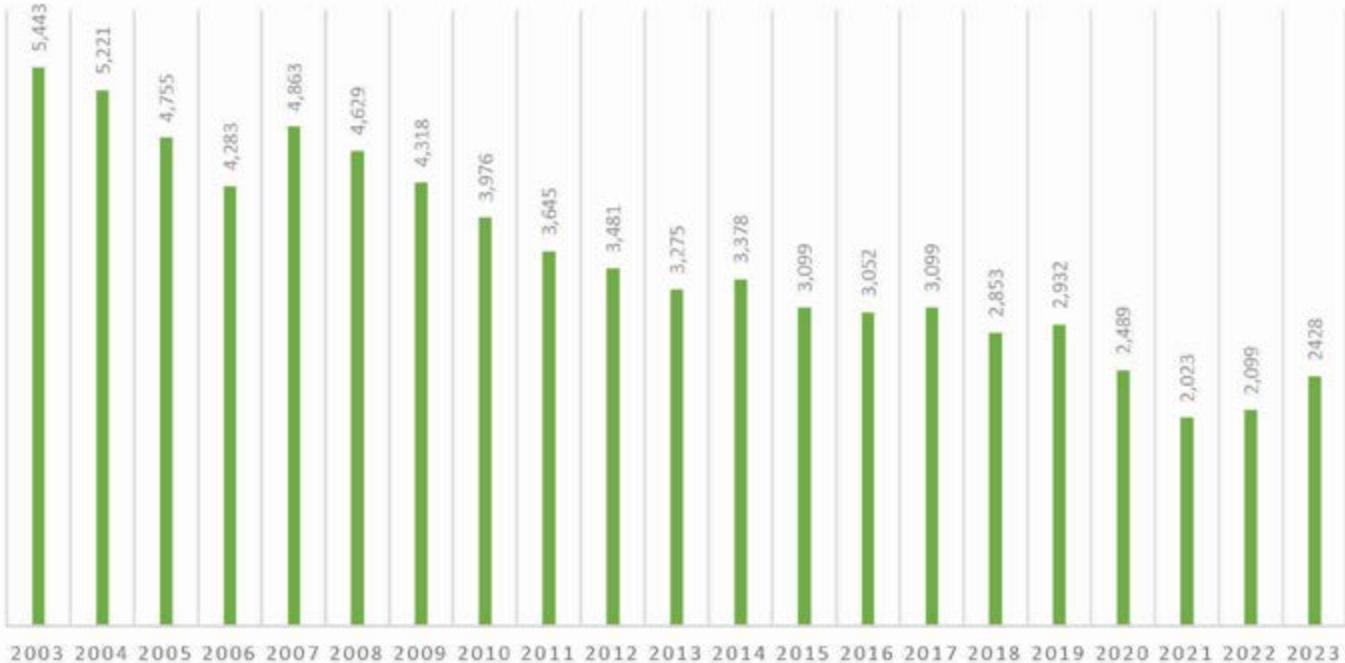
## Drone Unit

Our Drone Unit consists of highly trained unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV) police drone pilots. Their training includes mastering flight techniques, understanding relevant laws and regulations, and developing skills in using advanced technologies like thermal imaging and high-resolution cameras. Police drones are used for various law enforcement purposes, including surveillance, search and rescue, assessing dangerous situations, and monitoring public events. Police drones are equipped with advanced technology, such as thermal imaging and high-resolution cameras, and can be instrumental in locating people with disabilities who may be lost or in distress. The aerial perspective allows for a quicker and more comprehensive search. The North Miami Police Department's drone unit played a crucial role in providing security for various City events throughout the year, being utilized on numerous occasions.

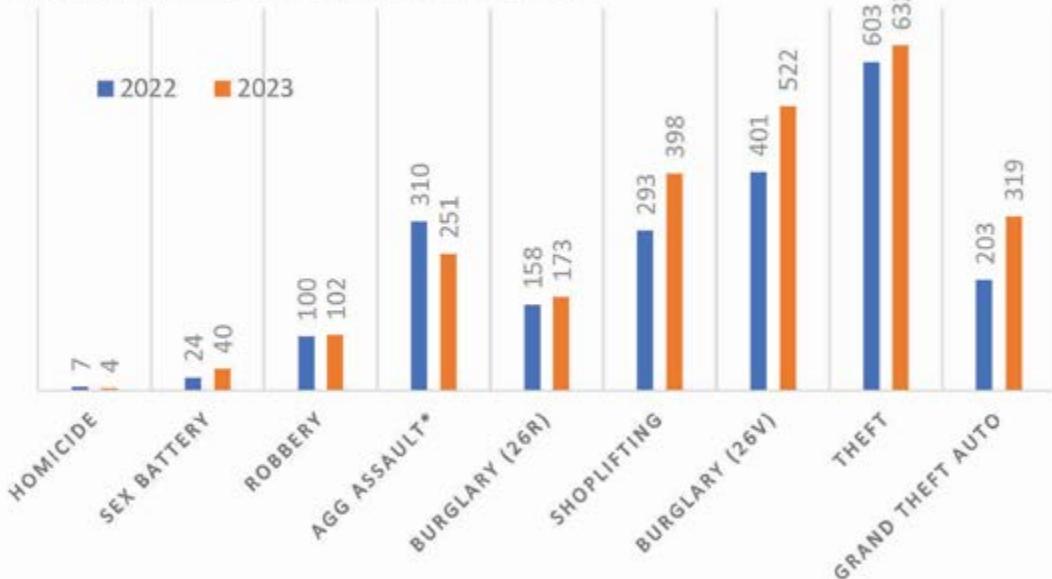


# STATISTICAL INFORMATION

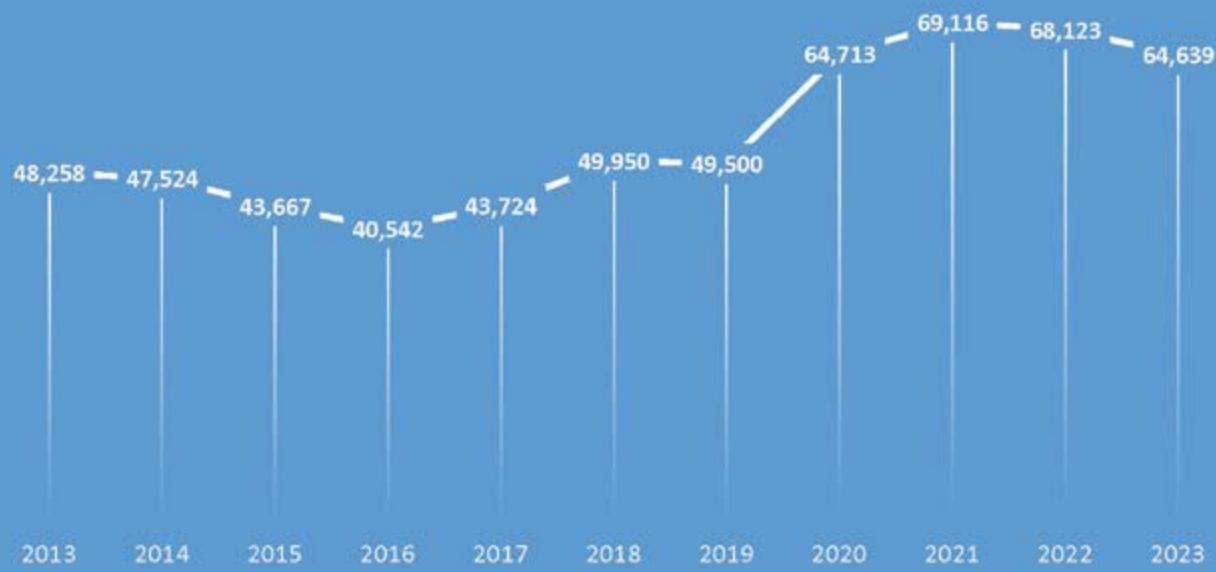
## PART I CRIMES: 2003 - 2023



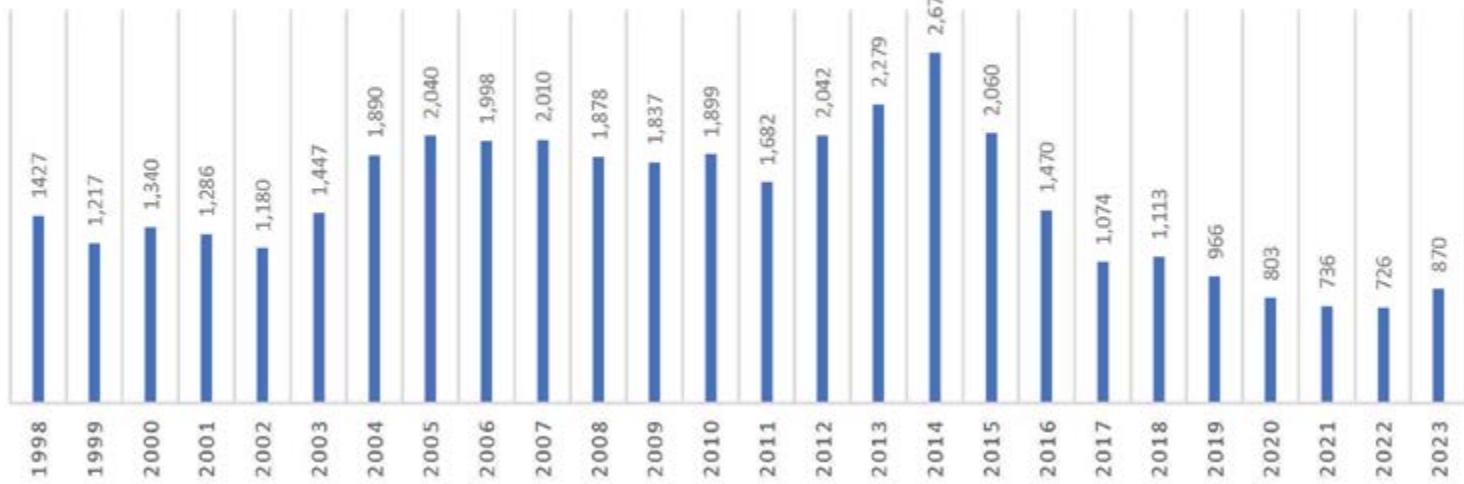
## CRIME BREAK DOWN COMPARISON



## CALLS FOR SERVICE 2013 - 2023



## TOTAL ARRESTS BY YEAR





## C.O.P.S. COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING SECTION

### Community Oriented Policing Unit

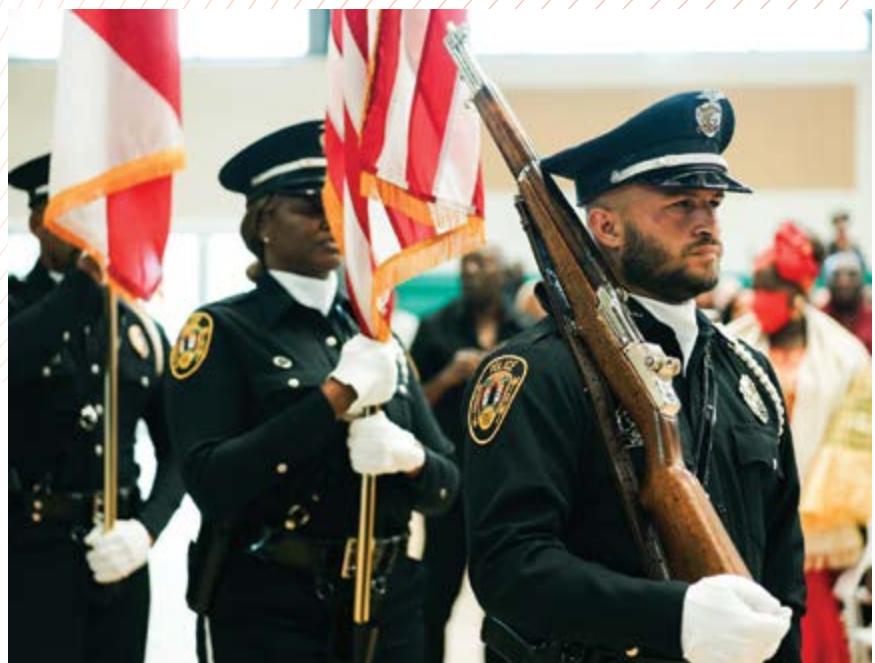
C.O.P.S identifies and responds to quality-of-life issues that impact the community. C.O.P.S officers implement neighborhood-focused police services to reduce crimes, engage community members, build partnerships, and solve problems.





## Honor Guard

The North Miami Police Department Honor Guard Unit consists of sworn law enforcement officers selected from various divisions to represent the Department at different functions. These officers exhibit professionalism, pride, integrity, and honor while representing the Department. The primary role of the unit is to provide funeral honors for fallen officers. Throughout 2023, the unit presented the colors at various events, attended the annual police memorial, and Veterans Day event.





## Mounted Patrol

Our Mounted Patrol Unit was established in 2019. Our Mounted officers are expertly trained in riding skills, crowd control techniques, and how to handle various situations while on mounted patrol. Horses undergo desensitization training to acclimate to potential stressors. The training emphasizes teamwork, effective communication between horse and rider, and equipping officers with the skills needed for crowd management and community engagement while on horseback. The visibility and approachability of mounted police officers creates opportunities for community engagement, building trust, and enhancing the overall perception of law enforcement within neighborhoods. Mounted patrol units are deployed for crowd control at events, enhancing visibility in busy areas, and providing a community-oriented policing presence. The use of horses allows officers to navigate through crowded spaces effectively, fostering positive interactions with the public and promoting a visible and approachable police presence. Officers Seda and Torres along with Equines Pouncer and Kashmir, attended the 2023 Mounted Police Colloquium in Lexington, Kentucky. The Mounted Patrol Unit underwent vigorous training and competed in games, equitation, and obstacle course competitions. Over 150 equestrian units were represented by over 55 police agencies throughout the United States and Canada.



# Marine Patrol Unit

The North Miami Police Department, Marine Patrol Unit, enforces maritime laws and ordinances on the waterways of the City of North Miami. They provide high-visibility patrol and also respond to emergencies on the intracoastal waterways. Marine Patrol officers provide education on boating, ensure all vessels comply with boating regulations, inspect vessels, and deter criminal activity. The North Miami Police Department Marine Patrol Unit works alongside other law enforcement agencies, both local and federal, including Homeland Security and Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission.



# Traffic Safety Unit

The Traffic Unit is tasked with traffic control and enforcement within the City of North Miami. Its main purpose is to reduce traffic crashes, injuries, and fatalities related to crashes and to facilitate the safe and expeditious flow of vehicular and pedestrian traffic through education and enforcement of State and local traffic regulations.

The members of this Unit are tasked with patrolling in marked and unmarked vehicles and motorcycles, specifically targeting drivers violating traffic laws, who may be under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs, and aggressive driving offenders. These officers are also trained in the investigation and reconstruction of traffic fatalities and serious injury crashes, as well as hit-and-run accidents.



A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO  
**Craig Zinn**  
**and the Craig Zinn Automotive Group**  
for their generous donation of two additional  
Mounted Patrol Horses, Kashmir and Lexus.  
These Mounted Patrol Horses will be a significant asset  
in enhancing the safety and service to the  
City of North Miami Community.  
Thank you for your continued support.

**CRAIG ZINN**  
AUTOMOTIVE GROUP

LEXUS

SUBARU

ACURA

TOYOTA

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