



PALM BEACH POLICE DEPARTMENT
OFFICER OF THE MONTH
March 2015

Officer Jonathan Perigny

Based on crisis intervention skills and commitment to service, you have been nominated and named by the Awards Committee and the Director of Public Safety as the Palm Beach Department's Officer of the Month for March 2015.

While conducting foot patrol at the Southern Causeway parking lot area, you and your police trainee came in contact with a male sitting in his vehicle and appeared to be distraught. You immediately recognized the male's depressed state of mind and built a rapport with him in an attempt to gain his trust. While speaking with him, the individual advised that he was having financial and emotional hardships. He explained he has a wife who is eight months pregnant and a child with medical complications. He further advised that he was contemplating suicide by either parking his vehicle on a set of train tracks or by driving his vehicle into a concrete light pole.

Upon establishing that he did not want to harm anyone but himself, you conducted a Baker Act and brought him to a designated mental health facility where he was evaluated for 72 hours. Upon completion of the evaluation period, you maintained contact with the subject to check on his welfare, to offer encouragement and to extend your friendship. As a result, on March 17, 2015, the subject authored a letter to express his sincere gratitude for the assistance he received and noted that while in a depressed state of mind, you and your trainee reminded him of all the reasons why he should not hurt himself. He expressed that not only was he grateful for having an opportunity to get help, you promised him that you would stay in touch with him and would be there for him if needed. He further wrote that when he was released from the hospital, you were true to your word by contacting him and checking on his welfare.

Because of your diligence, compassion and professionalism, you are hereby commended for your dedication and exemplary performance that ultimately saved a life.