



MIAMI BEACH

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

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LETTER TO COMMISSION

TO: Mayor Matti Herrera Bower and Members of the City Commission

FROM: *Jorge M. Gonzalez for*
Jorge M. Gonzalez, City Manager

DATE: September 14, 2009

SUBJECT: Middle District Residential Burglary Update

This Letter to Commission (LTC) serves to provide an update on the Police Department's efforts to combat a spike in burglaries earlier in the year at residential properties in the Middle District.

Following Memorial Day Weekend, a comprehensive task force (Momentum II) was created utilizing a combination of undercover detectives and street patrol officers to address the mid-beach burglaries. This Momentum II task force greatly reduced the amount of residential related criminal activity in that area for the period ranging from Memorial Day through the present. In the target area (30th Street to 63rd Street, east of the Waterway and Flamingo Drive) the following residential burglaries were reported:

Pre- Momentum II Task Force	During/Post Momentum II Task Force
7 Residential Burglaries in February	0 Residential Burglaries in May after Memorial Day Weekend
16 Residential Burglaries in March	2 Residential Burglaries in June
11 Residential Burglaries in April	1 Residential Burglary in July
	2 Residential Burglaries in August (1 was a trespass-Baker Act and 1 was a waterway attempt with subjects arrested)

This effort ultimately led to an arrest in July of an individual who we believe was responsible for coordinating most of the mid-beach burglaries from at least March through Memorial Day weekend, and he was also responsible for several other burglaries in the City of Coral Gables. Prior to that, an arrest was also made in June of a subject who is connected to multiple mid-Beach burglaries via fingerprints. Subsequent to these significant arrests, there has been a marked decrease in the amount of Middle District residential burglaries.

It should be noted that the primary activity associated with any residential criminal activity while the task force was in place involved primarily a few burglaries or attempted burglaries involved mainly with property located on the curtilage of homes. Additionally, in July there was one home invasion robbery in mid-beach, (with suspicious circumstances), involving an apartment in the area of 45th Street and Royal Palm Avenue.

Detectives will continue to monitor any Middle District burglary activity and remain proactive in their efforts to curb these crimes. They will also continue to work closely with other law enforcement agencies to coordinate the prosecution of burglary cases involving multiple jurisdictions and develop all possible investigative leads on open cases.

JMG/CN/tr