



MIAMI BEACH

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER
NO. LTC # 091-2010

LETTER TO COMMISSION

TO: Mayor Matti Herrera Bower and Members of the City Commission
FROM: Jorge M. Gonzalez, City Manager
DATE: March 29, 2010
SUBJECT: Stabbing on March 27, 2010 South of 5th

RECEIVED
2010 MAR 29 PM 2:18
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

The purpose of this LTC is to provide the Commission with information regarding the stabbing that occurred last Saturday night, especially as media reports provided incorrect information that has caused concern among residents in that area. First and foremost, it is important to clarify that this incident DID NOT occur in South Pointe Park as incorrectly reported by several media outlets, nor did this occur in Nikki Beach/Pier Park, on the beach or beachwalk.

As per the police incident report, the two victims, along with several friends, had finished dinner at the TGIF on the corner of 5th and Ocean when they headed south on Ocean Drive and were followed by the male subject. An initial argument occurred at approximately 3rd and Ocean Drive between the subject and the two victims and, as the group approached South Pointe Drive (also known as Biscayne Street), the subject again engaged the two victims in a discussion that resulted in the subject punching one victim, who struck the subject back several times. The second victim also struck the subject in an attempt to protect her friend, at which time the subject (identified as 24 year-old Kidane Mengesha) produced a knife and stabbed both victims. One victim suffered a deep laceration to her left thigh and was transported to Mt. Sinai Hospital; the other victim suffered a laceration to her face, arm and two puncture wounds to her chest and below her left arm. She was transported to Ryder Trauma and underwent surgery; her condition is unknown.

The subject fled the scene southbound but was quickly apprehended by police on the south side of the Portofino Condominium. The knife used was also recovered near the scene. There are a total of six witnesses and all six positively identified the subject as the person who stabbed both victims. The subject provided detectives with a recorded sworn statement and has been charged with one count of attempted 2nd degree murder and one count of aggravated battery.

As you are aware, this past weekend was the concluding weekend for Winter Music Conference. The City is also currently busy with the annual spring break visitors. The victims are not City residents; the subject's last known address is in North Miami.

As we do for these high impact periods, the City implemented a Major Events Plan that provided for enhanced police, fire, code, parking and sanitation staffing. We will be debriefing on this MEP, as we typically do. While this incident is unfortunate and certainly a concern, it appears to be related specifically to a disagreement between the subject and this group, and is not related to any of the issues regarding vacant buildings, vagrants, etc. that have been the subject of other recent emails and committee discussions. It is also important to again emphasize that this unfortunate incident did not occur in South Pointe Park, Pier Park, the beach or the beachwalk area.

Please feel free to call me should you have any questions or require additional information.

Cc: Chief Ray Martinez
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MIAMI BEACH
POLICE



SPECIAL INCIDENT NOTIFICATION FORM
PATROL DIVISION

INCIDENT: Stabbing

DATE: March 27, 2010

TIME: 21:00 Hrs.

CASE NUMBER: 2010- 31180

LOCATION: 100 Blk of South Pointe Drive

COMMANDER: Lt. Robinson

SUPERVISOR: Sergeants Corps, Prevish, and Amaya were on scene

LEAD OFFICER: Ofc. R. Azicri

LEAD DETECTIVE: Multiple detectives from the Robbery Unit were on scene. Det. Erben was called in as the lead investigator.

WHO WAS NOTIFIED: Command Staff and PIO were notified via this form. S.D.O. Captain Gullage was notified by phone as was D.C. Riley.

DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT:

A group of females departed the TGI Fridays restaurant at 5 Street at Ocean Drive. As they walked down the beach they were followed by the subject. At one point these females verbally confronted the subject as to why he was following them. The argument turned violent when the subject stabbed two of these females. One victim was stabbed in the abdomen and the other in the leg. A B.O.L.O. was issued and Ofc. Lester apprehended the subject nearby. The knife was recovered and the scene was secured. CSI responded to process the scene. One victim was transported to Ryder Trauma Center and the other to Mount Sinai Hospital. Both victims are expected to survive. As this incident notification is being authored the subject is being interviewed.

SUBJECT: Kidane Mengesha B/M 05-06-1985

MEDIA INQUIRIES: None