



# PINECREST POLICE DEPARTMENT

## 2015 ANNUAL REPORT

SAMUEL CEBALLOS, JR. | CHIEF OF POLICE

### *A Message from the Chief*

### CHIEF CEBALLOS' POLICE EXPERIENCE

- 1978: Graduated the Police Academy "Most Outstanding Recruit"
- 1978 - 1980: Dade County Public Safety Department (Miami-Dade PD)
- 1980 - 2002: Hialeah Police Department
  - Three Years as Executive Officer to the Chief of Police
  - Internal Affairs Section Commander
  - Community Policing Section Commander
  - Records Section Commander
  - Traffic Homicide Unit Supervisor
  - Grant Writing
  - SWAT Team Member
  - Crime Suppression Unit Member
  - Personnel Selection Unit Background Investigator
- 2002 - Present: Pinecrest Police Department
  - Chief of Police 2012 - Present
  - Lieutenant 2004 - 2012
  - Sergeant 2002 - 2004

- Education**
- FBI National Academy Graduate - Session 250
  - Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice Florida International University (summa cum laude)

It is an honor for me once again to provide the Pinecrest community with the Police Department Annual Report, which highlights some noteworthy accomplishments. The report will serve to reaffirm the police department's commitment to a community policing philosophy, while also instilling confidence in the future.

At the time I took over as Chief of Police, in the latter part of 2012, the incidence of residential burglaries were on the rise. The police department shifted the focus from traffic enforcement and put emphasis on the mission of deterring and preventing crime, and apprehending criminals intent on disrupting the lives of Pinecrest residents by violating the sanctity of the home and feelings of security.

I am proud to report that residential burglaries are down a remarkable 23 percent since I became chief. I am also pleased to report a 17 percent drop in Part 1 crimes in the Village during 2015, as compared to the previous year.

Police department employees worked tirelessly to achieve this success and I commend them for their dedicated service and commitment to excellence. It is this responsiveness to community concerns about crime that served as a guiding principle for incorporation nearly 20 years ago, and the establishment of a community oriented police department.

We will continue to nurture the partnerships established with community members, which have never been stronger than they are today. In this way, Pinecrest residents can continue to enjoy living in one of the safest communities of Miami-Dade County - bolstered by a police department that has set the gold standard for law enforcement excellence since becoming dually accredited over 10 years ago.

**Samuel Ceballos, Jr.**  
**C.L.E.E.**

**Chief Ceballos won the 2015 Florida Police Chiefs Association (FPCA) Rocky Pomerance Excellence in Policing Award** for creating a digital solution for sharing Be On the Look Out (BOLO) flyers. The Rocky Pomerance Award recognizes excellence in policing and encourages the sharing of best practices and programs developed to address community problems.



# CRIME *Prevention*

The Crime Prevention Unit is led by Sergeant Michael Gorsline, who has formed mutually beneficial relationships through community outreach with residents by increasing Neighborhood Watch Groups since July 2013 to 25. In 2015, six new Neighborhood Watch Groups were started in the Village.

Neighborhood Watch Groups are comprised of neighborhood watch coordinators, block captains, block watchers and their neighbors. The groups help police by being the “eyes and ears” of their perspective blocks. In return, the Crime Prevention Unit provides these groups with valuable information on a monthly basis that helps them be more aware and informed about crime in the Village. To start a Neighborhood Watch Group on your block call Sergeant Gorsline at 305-234-2100.

## CRIME STATISTICS

<i>UCR Comparison Report 2014 - 2015</i>				
<b>PART 1 CRIMES</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>Difference</b>	<b>%</b>
HOMICIDE	0	0	0	0%
SEX OFFENSES	2	1	-1	-50%
ROBBERY	5	3	-2	-40%
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT	6	11	5	83%
BURGLARY	127	116	-11	-9%
LARCENY	468	380	-88	-19%
ARSON	0	0	0	0%
AUTO THEFT	29	18	-11	-38%
<b>TOTAL PART ONE</b>	<b>637</b>	<b>529</b>	<b>-108</b>	<b>-17%</b>

In 2015, Sergeant Gorsline attended monthly Miami-Dade Crime Watch meetings where crime prevention units from around the county discuss issues pertaining to crime prevention. He received a general instructor certification from the Miami-Dade Public Safety Training Institute and earned Terrorism Liaison Training certification from the Florida Department of Law Enforcement. Sergeant Gorsline also led various workshops in the community regarding crime prevention, home security and gun safety.

## WATCH ORDERS

A service that the department offers where residents can request that patrol officers periodically visit the locations of watch orders and check for criminal or suspicious activity. It can be requested by Village residents online at [www.pinecrest-fl.gov/police](http://www.pinecrest-fl.gov/police) or by calling 305-234-2100.

## PARK AND WALK

In keeping with our community oriented policing philosophy, police department members conduct foot patrols, referred to as Park & Walks, that increase visibility in the commercial district.

## COURTESY CHECK

Patrol officers visit closed businesses to guard against criminal activity and verify that all access points are secure. Midnight shift personnel leave a courtesy check notice at the front door of the business to inform the owner of the visit.

## CRIME PREVENTION TIPS

Pinecrest officers engage the community by delivering crime prevention tips to residents and the business community to help increase awareness and reduce crime.

## PARK DETAIL

Police officers and community service aides conduct park patrol details to deter criminal activity.



### Awards

## 2015 AWARDS

### Sergeant Michael Gorsline

Law Enforcement Officers (LEO) Charitable Foundation, Crime Prevention/Community Policing Award

### Sergeant Ivan Osores

Law Enforcement Officers (LEO) Charitable Foundation, Uniform Services Award

## TRAFFIC SAFETY AWARDS

### Police Department

State of Florida DUI Challenge, 3rd Place  
State of Florida Law Enforcement Challenge, 3rd Place

### Chief Samuel Ceballos, Jr.

MADD Florida Recognition of Excellence  
MADD Recognition of Distinction

### Lieutenant Derrick Bowman

MADD Recognition of Distinction

### DRE Officer Edison Cruz

MADD William Craig Top DRE Award  
MADD Florida Century Achiever

### Officer Shirley Verde

MADD Enforcement Award of Honor

## 2015 COMMUNITY POLICING STATISTICS

Watch Orders	10,008
Park & Walk Details	3,609
Courtesy Checks	2,023
Crime Prevention Tips	1,882
Park Details	3,080



# TOP FIVE *Notable Cases*

## CASE CLOSED

**Case Closed:** January 23, 2015

**Crime:** Grand Theft to Business

**Summary:** A female, 34, stole \$167,735 from Miami Center for Dermatology, 7700 SW 104th Street. She took the money while she worked at the business as a billing supervisor over two years. The detective bureau worked on the case in conjunction with the State Attorney's Office in order to charge and arrest the subject.

**Case Closed:** November 24, 2015

**Crime:** Burglary to a Residence and Grand Theft

**Summary:** A male, 21, burglarized an unoccupied house in the 12100 block of Southwest 64th Avenue between 7:30 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. on February 23, 2015. The burglar entered through a rear window. He got away with jewelry and electronics valued at \$10,500. Fingerprints collected at the scene led police to charge and arrest the suspect.

**Case Closed:** November 24, 2015

**Crime:** Burglary to an Occupied Dwelling and Third degree Grand Theft

**Summary:** A male, 21, burglarized a house in the 11900 block of Southwest 67th Court while a couple was sleeping at 6:30 a.m. on June 28, 2015. The burglar entered through an unlocked rear patio sliding door. He stole cash, jewelry and electronics valued at \$1,445. Police charged the suspect after the victim's jewelry was found at a pawn shop and traced back to him.

**Case Closed:** August 5, 2015

**Crime:** Burglary to an Automobile

**Summary:** A male, 18, was seen on surveillance video breaking into a car parked outside of a house in the 6400 block of Southwest 116th Street at 4:30 a.m. November 30, 2014. The fingerprints that were collected at the scene by police were sent to Miami-Dade Police for processing and matched those of a man who was in jail for second degree murder, attempted murder and strong arm robbery. Police linked the man to a vehicle burglary ring that was targeting Pinecrest.

**Case Closed:** December 15, 2015

**Crime:** Burglary to an Unoccupied Dwelling and Criminal Mischief

**Summary:** Two males, 20 and 18, attempted to break into a house in the 6400 block of Southwest 92nd Street by entering the home's sun porch via an unlocked door, and smashing an impact resistant rear glass door at 2:00 p.m. on December 15, 2015. The men were not able to make entry inside the home. An alert UPS driver saw the men jumping over the home's fence and alerted police who arrested and charged the men within 30 minutes.



### *Department Spotlight*

**DETECTIVE PHILLIP MARTIN** has been with the police department for nine years and joined the detective bureau March 4, 2016. He has worked in other specialized capacities that include the Crime Suppression Team, Field Training Officer, as a trained hostage negotiator and most recently in Crime Scene Investigation.

"I wanted to work in the detective bureau because it is a natural extension of crime scene investigations," said Martin. "The evidence gathered at crime scenes helps close cases and that is what I look forward to doing as a detective."

Detective Martin is known among co-workers as having an affinity for animals, a characteristic he picked up as a boy living in rural Georgia. While on duty, he captured a Burmese python, a cockatoo (we affectionately named Pinky) and even a pig. His father is a retired Senior Special Agent for U.S. Customs which gave Detective Martin the opportunity to live in various US cities. On his downtime, he enjoys the outdoors and activities that include kayak fishing, snorkeling, free diving and drawing.