

Officer Michael Bibeau

Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission

Nominated by the Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission

- Officer Bibeau has worked with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission for the past eight years. He has a passion for resource protection and catching those individuals who violate our resource laws. From January 1 through October 29, 2017, the FWC's Division of Law Enforcement released 38 reports detailing noteworthy cases and arrests made throughout the state, and in those 38 reports, Officer Bibeau was named 48 times for his case work. He was selected to take part in the inaugural FWC Advanced Conservation Academy, a year-long opportunity provided for sworn members to travel throughout the state one week at a time and develop their skill set even further. The Academy has given Officer Bibeau not only the opportunity to bring home a specialized set of skills, but also made him an even more valuable asset to his fellow officers should they encounter a situation that is out of the norm for their area. Officer Bibeau has been chosen to serve as a primary Field Training Officer for new officers in the field numerous times due to his wealth of knowledge and dedication to the role.
- While on patrol earlier this year, he noticed two people flip a jet-ski multiple times. Concerned about the individuals in the strong currents of the waterway, he drove his patrol vessel to their location.

He immediately noticed the individuals were starting to get swept to sea in the currents and quickly took action, pulling both individuals to safety on board his vessel. Had it not been for the quick reaction of Officer Bibeau that day, it is possible those individuals would have been taken to sea with the currents.

- Every year, Officer Bibeau participates in the Great American Teach-In program, taking time to provide elementary and middle school students real life insights into the world of a conservation law enforcement officer, while also reinforcing the importance of education for success in any occupation. In addition, he has spoken to college students at Stetson University on multiple occasions about federal fisheries regulations and enforcement. Officer Bibeau also regularly serves as an FWC representative at boat shows, educating the public on boating safety and laws. Officer Bibeau sets the bar high for his fellow officers, and his concern and professional treatment of the public highlight his commitment to the State of Florida.

Lieutenant Debra Clayton (deceased)

Orlando Police Department

Nominated by the Florida State Fraternal Order of Police

- Lieutenant Debra Clayton worked for the Orlando Police Department for 17 years. On January 9, 2017, just after 7:00 a.m., Lieutenant Clayton was near the entrance of the Walmart in the 3100 block of West Princeton Street. She had just purchased items for a nearby police substation and was loading them into her marked patrol car. A

concerned citizen approached Lieutenant Clayton and told her a local fugitive, wanted for a double murder, was in a checkout line purchasing items at that very moment. Lieutenant Clayton immediately radioed for additional officers and began moving toward the doors. Within seconds, the fugitive came out pushing a shopping cart. He shoved the cart toward Lieutenant Clayton and reached for a concealed firearm. A brief determined gunfight ensued, during which Lieutenant Clayton was mortally wounded.

- Corporal Robert Schellhorn, Master Police Officer Branden Thornton, and Officer Jeremy Sisk responded to the radio call and arrived at the scene in under a minute. They found Lieutenant Clayton wounded and the fugitive fleeing the scene. Disregarding their own safety, the three immediately began rendering aid to Lieutenant Clayton. When Orlando Fire Department paramedics arrived, the officers continued to assist by expediting Lieutenant Clayton's transport to the hospital.
- For her courage and selfless dedication to duty during the attempt to apprehend a murder suspect, Lieutenant Debra Clayton was awarded the Orlando Police Department Award of Valor. For rendering the ultimate sacrifice during a deadly force encounter with a murder suspect, she was awarded the Orlando Police Department Purple Heart Award.

Trooper Nicholas Dolan

Florida Highway Patrol

Nominated by the Florida Highway Patrol

- Trooper Nicholas Dolan has worked for the Florida Highway Patrol for over 5 years. On February 26, 2017, Trooper Dolan displayed great dedication to the safety of the public during an active shooter incident in Citrus County. At approximately 9:35 a.m., the Tampa Bay Regional Communications Center was notified by the Citrus County Sheriff's Office that they were requesting assistance from the Florida Highway Patrol in reference to an active shooter that had been shooting a high-powered rifle across State Road 200 in Marion County. The suspect was being pursued by Marion County Sheriff's Office and entered Citrus County. FHP units immediately responded to the area of the pursuit. Trooper Nicholas Dolan and Lieutenant Heather Glenny intercepted the pursuit at U.S. Highway 41, south of Floral Park Drive. Trooper Dolan observed the driver of the vehicle point a handgun at him as the suspect passed. Trooper Dolan made a U-turn, falling in as the lead vehicle behind the suspect's vehicle. Trooper Dolan initiated a Precision Immobilization Technique maneuver on the suspect's vehicle. The vehicle was forced off the roadway onto the eastern grass shoulder, into a ditch. Trooper Dolan intentionally engaged the rear of the suspect's vehicle with the front of his patrol vehicle, due to his concern that the suspect would back up and continue travelling to a more populated area. This action pinned the suspect's vehicle in the ditch, rendering it unable to move.

- The suspect, James L. Marker, (wearing a tactical vest and pants) immediately exited the vehicle with a firearm in his hand, swinging it around attempting to point it at Trooper Dolan. Trooper Dolan was able to exit his vehicle and engage the suspect with gunfire along with deputies from the Citrus County Sheriff's Office. The suspect was struck several times by gunfire but remained standing with his handgun. Trooper Dolan and the deputies continued firing at the suspect until he finally fell to the ground. Trooper Dolan approached the suspect, disarmed him, and safely secured him in handcuffs. The tactical vest the suspect was wearing contained another loaded magazine for his handgun and multiple loose rounds of ammunition. The suspect suffered fatal injuries as a result of the encounter.
- Trooper Dolan maintained a calm demeanor during the entire incident. Trooper Dolan placed himself in imminent danger to protect the lives of the public that were at the nearby park. Trooper Dolan engaged an armed suspect in a close encounter deadly force situation, as a result there were no injuries sustained by innocent bystanders. For his heroic actions, Trooper Nicholas Dolan was recognized as the 2018 Florida Highway Patrol Trooper of the Year. The Trooper of the Year is awarded to a deserving member of the Florida Highway Patrol for their core values of courtesy, service and protection ensuring the safety and welfare of millions of Floridians and visitors.

Detective Manuel Gonzalez

Miami-Dade Police Department

Nominated by the Florida Police Chiefs Association

- Detective Gonzalez has worked with the Miami-Dade Police Department for almost eight years. He recently received the Lee McGehee Police Officer of the Year Award, an award given by the Florida Police Chiefs Association which recognizes recipients for their commitment to safety in the state of Florida. Detective Gonzalez continues to prove his dedication, outstanding service and commitment to safety in the state of Florida.
- On Wednesday, December 6, 2017, Detective Gonzalez was working an off-duty security detail at the Walmart Super Center. While in the performance of his duties, Detective Gonzalez was directed by an employee to a male suspected of shoplifting. Detective Gonzalez followed the suspect out of the store and confronted him at his vehicle regarding the alleged shoplifting. During the encounter, the suspect suddenly pulled out a handgun and fired several shots at Detective Gonzalez, who was struck multiple times. Although he was seriously injured, Detective Gonzalez quickly returned fire, striking the suspect multiple times and incapacitating him. Detective Gonzalez requested immediate assistance and was transported by another officer to Jackson Memorial Hospital's Ryder Trauma Center for treatment. The suspect was pronounced deceased on the scene.
- Despite facing mortal danger, Detective Gonzalez' decisive action quickly ended a situation that had the potential of placing citizens and

other responding officers at risk. During this incident, Detective Gonzalez displayed conspicuous gallantry in the face of life-threatening adversity. His courage, heroism, conviction, and sense of duty were not only on display during those brief, horrifying moments, but have also been evident in his recovery process. Despite his injuries, Detective Gonzalez managed to maintain a continuous positive attitude about his chosen profession and expressed his desire to return to full duty as soon as possible. Detective Gonzalez' actions during the deadly encounter and his subsequent upbeat attitude is a tribute to the strength and courage that is embodied in all law enforcement officers. He is truly a credit to the Florida community he proudly serves and the law enforcement community as a whole.

Deputy Jesus Madrigal

Broward County Sheriff's Office

Nominated by the Florida Sheriffs Association

- Deputy Jesus Madrigal has been with the Broward County Sheriff's Office for the past 14 years. He recently won the Florida Sheriffs Association Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Award for acts of courage and heroism, placing himself in imminent danger to protect the lives of many airline passengers.
- On January 6, 2017, Deputy Madrigal was working at the Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport (FLL) as the detail deputy

assigned to the Delta Checkpoint in Terminal 2, when the unthinkable occurred by a lone active shooter. Esteban Santiago flew into FLL on a Delta flight and upon landing retrieved his handgun that he sent through as checked luggage and then proceeded into the men's room on the lower level baggage claim area where he loaded the weapon and had one extra magazine. Deputy Madrigal was upstairs at the checkpoint when Santiago exited the bathroom and proceeded to walk through the lower level randomly shooting fellow passengers, killing five and wounding six more. The sound of gunshots echoed through the building causing hundreds of passengers that were processing through the checkpoint to flee directly into the checkpoint seeking refuge, while Deputy Madrigal ran past them headed toward the sounds. Deputy Madrigal managed to navigate through all the passengers running away from harm and made his way downstairs to the lower level and ran through a maze of gun smoke and past multiple victims on the ground, toward Santiago. Deputy Madrigal encountered Santiago on the west end of the area and at gun point ordered him to drop his weapon and get on the ground which is exactly what he did, allowing Deputy Madrigal to take him into custody, as additional Broward County Sheriffs deputies arrived to assist. From the initial shot of Santiago, to the moment that Deputy Madrigal had him at gunpoint, was a total of only 86 seconds. His swift and immediate response not only resulted in the subject being detained quickly, it also prevented any other innocent people from being harmed. Deputy Madrigal's exceptional act of valor while undertaking a course of action in an extremely dangerous situation is

an example of his outstanding work ethic and commitment to the State of Florida.

Lieutenant Stacy McIntyre

Florida Department of Financial Services, Division of Investigative & Forensic Services

Nominated by the State Law Enforcement Chiefs Association

- Lieutenant Stacy McIntyre has been with the Department of Financial Services, Division of Investigative & Forensic Services, Bureau of Fire and Arson Investigations for over 10 years. He currently oversees the operations of the Lake Wales Field Office. Prior to his employment with the bureau, he has worked with the FDLE Capitol Police and the Gadsden County Sheriff's Office for a total of over 16 years serving the citizens of the Florida.
- On September 26, 2017, while assisting with operations in the Keys following Hurricane Irma, Lieutenant McIntyre noticed a generator on the front porch of a residence with the exhaust blowing into the structure. He contacted the occupant and observed that she exhibited the beginning symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning. Lieutenant McIntyre removed her from the residence and utilized his Carbon Monoxide (CO) detector to determine the CO was at a lethal level inside the residence. This resourceful use of technology further assured him that a life was in danger. The Florida Wildlife Commission transported her to the nearby medical camp where she

received medical attention and was eventually released. Due to Lieutenant McIntyre's attention to detail and dedication to the citizens of Florida's health and well-being, he was able to notice a life-threatening situation and act quickly to save a life. This is just one example of Lieutenant McIntyre's willingness to respond when needed, and the Bureau of Fire and Arson Investigations are proud to have him on their team and serving the State of Florida.

Special Agent Daniel Mehler

Florida Department of Law Enforcement

Nominated by the Florida Department of Law Enforcement

- Special Agent (SA) Daniel Mehler has been with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement for over 4 years. He is currently with the Fort Myers Regional Operations Center, Organized Crime Squad and serves as the Child Abduction Response Team Coordinator for the FMROC south team. In 2018, SA Mehler was recognized by his peers as FDLE's 2018 Special Agent of the Year for his investigative strategy, dedication, tenacity, and relentless work ethic that led to the successful investigation of numerous massage parlors involved in multi-jurisdictional money laundering activity.
- In November 2015, SA Mehler became involved in a criminal investigation of an organized group of eight individuals operating numerous massage parlors in Sarasota, Manatee, Leon, Lee, and Collier counties. Due to the multiple jurisdictional nature and the

necessity of coordination and additional resources, SA Mehler was assigned as the lead investigator and began to coordinate with the partnering law enforcement agencies as a joint investigation. Over a period of 17 months, SA Mehler led the multi-agency investigation through a variety of investigative techniques to include coordinating undercover operations at numerous massage parlors with federal and local investigators in Florida, New York and Hawaii. These efforts were pivotal in identifying evidence of money laundering through international banks in New York. The investigation ultimately identified Robert Jones as the head of the organization who coordinated the illegal activity from his primary residence in Kauai, Hawaii. In early 2017, SA Mehler began coordinating an operation to arrest the targets of the investigation, conduct simultaneous undercover operations and search warrants, and seize illegal assets in the form of bank accounts, real property, and vehicles.

- In June of 2017, after extensive coordination and planning with numerous law enforcement agencies, SA Mehler implemented a strategy for the culmination of the investigation that relied on strict coordination and communication between 15 teams to serve 19 search warrants, at 16 locations, involving more than 160 law enforcement officers. As a result, seven of the targets, including Robert Jones were arrested and charged with Racketeering, Conspiracy to Commit Racketeering, Living Off Proceeds of Prostitution, and Money Laundering. Ten prostitutes were also arrested. As a result of the investigation, 17 defendants have been arrested and \$763,000 in U.S. currency, a vehicle and two buildings have been seized. Due to the investigative efforts, the criminal

organization is no longer in the business of trafficking women to work in the illegal commercial sex trade. SA Mehler's investigative strategy, dedication, and outstanding work ethic led to the unprecedented success of this investigation and he now serves as a model for other law enforcement agencies throughout the State of Florida. SA Mehler is an exemplary FLDE agent who represents what it means to be a devoted public servant. He has worked countless hours supporting the FDLE mission with integrity and unwavering commitment to serving Florida's citizens.

Special Agent T. Judah Pent

Federal Bureau of Investigation

Nominated by the Florida Gang Investigators Association

- Special Agent Pent is assigned to the FBI Safe Streets Task Force in the Lakeland Resident Agency, which covers Polk County for gang investigations. SA Pent also covers investigations of drug trafficking by transnational organized crime groups and has authority for interstate and international investigations. SA Pent spent the first six years of his career working violent crime and gang investigations across Oa'ahu, Hawaii. His investigations there included drug trafficking, gang investigations of Samoan organized crime and a murder-for-hire conviction that is in appeal for a life sentence. In May of 2018, FBI SAC for Tampa Division awarded SA Pent with an Extraordinary Performance award.

- In 2018, an ongoing investigation called “Special Shipment” was making little progress; this case involved group drug trafficking from Mexico to California to Lakeland, Florida via mail. This group is believed to be a significant source of the supply of drugs for the Lakeland/Polk area, including several claiming “Bloods” gang affiliation. SA Pent assessed the problems and partnered with the US Postal Inspector Service. He was able to compile a long list of case accomplishments, including three key arrests of the drug trafficking organization, over 20 court-authorized search warrants of residences and packages, and identification of the supply source from California. Most impressive was SA Pent’s work disrupting a violent home-invasion robbery crew as a spin-off of the case. A drug trafficking organization co-conspirator was organizing and directing a small crew of violent criminals associated with the “Bloods” gang, targeting local narcotic traffickers in Polk County, Kissimmee, and Clearwater. SA Pent and his co-case Task Force Officers, Rob Mateo and Jenn Stovall, have developed key cooperation statements from three of the robbery crew, which will now lead to solving at least one cold case homicide. Using excellent research skills and social media exploitation, SA Pent’s work led to the arrest of all nine subjects in April and May of 2018.
- SA Pent frequently shares his knowledge and experience as a team player. He has great communication skills, takes on complex problems and develops creative, and more important, successful solutions. These are only a few reasons the FBI Lakeland Resident Agency and Polk County are proud to have him on their team and serving the State of Florida.

Officer Rebecca Rivera

Orlando Police Department

Nominated by the Florida Retail Federation

- Officer Rebecca Rivera is an eight-year veteran of the Orlando Police Department. Officer Rivera currently serves on the Orlando Police Department's I-Drive Bike Squad, where she plays an instrumental role in the squad's proactive enforcement of retail and economic crime. Over the past year, Officer Rivera's diligence, keen skills, investigative tenacity, and use of surveillance, have resulted in a significant increase in arrests for fraud, retail theft, and organized retail crime on the I-Drive corridor.
- One example of Officer Rivera's performance and dedication was a case in 2018, Officer Rivera and Corporal Hutto investigated a suspicious person holding a tattered retail bag, walking in the Premium Outlet Mall parking lot. Eventually, the subject entered a passenger truck that had a non-legal handwritten temporary tag with no state or identifying characteristics. Officer Rivera and Hutto then conducted a traffic stop. During this stop, numerous inaccuracies and peculiar behaviors were observed. The vehicle was discovered to be a rental and the authorized user was not present. Additionally, the vehicle's interior smelled of cannabis. The vehicle was searched, and the suspect's retail bag was discovered concealed in another retail bag. The bag contained a large sum of US currency, vacuum sealed in a clear plastic wrapping. Interviews were conducted with the driver and later with an acquaintance who returned to the vehicle.

It was discovered that the driver had failed to complete a money drop in the parking lot. The vacuum sealed package of US currency received a positive hit from a drug K-9. The manner of packaging was consistent with illicit criminal activity. The driver removed himself from any ownership rights to the currency and claimed it was not his. He signed a forfeiture receipt and was provided a money receipt with a case number. The count revealed \$64,280 and was submitted for departmental forfeiture. Later, the full amount submitted for forfeiture was successfully seized by the Orlando Police Department Legal Department and Officer Rivera received the Orlando Police Department Officer of the Month Award for this case.

- In another case, Officer Rivera was monitoring patrons at the Premium Outlet Mall, and noticed a male subject running with a white bag. The subject ran into a construction site prompting her to make contact with the male. She observed him placing the white bag into a trailer. Initially, the subject stated he had just consumed narcotics and became scared. He later admitted to stealing eight pairs of sunglasses that were contained in the white bag. The total theft was \$1,050. During the initial interview, the suspect provided her with incorrect personal information. She would later discover the male's identity and the active warrant he was attempting to evade. The warrant was regarding a charge of aggravated battery with a weapon. Officer Rivera was congratulated by the Criminal Investigations Division West Property Sergeant P. Griffith for her thorough investigation and arrest.
- These and many other examples were given for Officer Rivera's recent efforts at identifying and deterring crime on International Drive.

At the conclusion of her review period, Officer Rivera was selected to be a member of the Orlando Police Department Drug Unit. Officer Rivera is a true steward to her community, and routinely goes above and beyond the call of duty to assist International Drive businesses in crime prevention, investigation, and the apprehension of criminals.