



**Tampa International Airport  
Police Department**



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# MESSAGE FROM CHIEF VAZQUEZ



## Chief Charlie Vazquez Director of Public Safety and Security

Thank you for your interest in the 2021 Tampa International Airport Police Department Annual Report. We hope our report provides you with a different perspective and new insight into the daily operations of your police department. The love of our profession goes far beyond protection of the Airport and catching bad guys. From our Admin Staff, to our Traffic Specialists, to our Police Officers, service to our community is at the heart of all we do.

For the entirety of 2021, the pandemic affected every aspect of our operations. However, it did not affect the high level of service the Tampa International Airport Police Department is known for. TIAPD was here the whole time, doing what we do best; living up to our stated vision which is, "to exceed our

customer's expectations by making the Tampa International Airport the most efficient, safe and secure air transportation center in the world."

Whether it was State of Florida reaccreditation, receiving awards and honors, conducting patrols, special investigations, administrative tasks or traffic mobility, our pride shines through. However, nowhere does that pride shine as bright as it does with our community outreach activities. As you review our Community Outreach section, you will get just a small glimpse into the servant heart of our employees.

I personally extend my gratitude to all the employees of the Tampa International Airport Police Department. In a most trying of years, each of you rose to the occasion to reinforce the pride I have in our agency. I would also like to thank all of our partners in the Hillsborough County Aviation Authority, TPA Tenants and our guests who make our airport community the special place that it is. Bring on 2022! #STAYTIAPDPROUD!

**Lisa Spinnichia**  
**Senior Administrative Assistant**  
**(Office of the Director of Public Safety and Security)**



Lisa began her career with the Department of Public Safety and Security in February of 2016. She came to us from the Banking and Mortgage Industry. Lisa has held leadership positions in project management, auditing, customer portfolio analysis and managing customer service departments. She obtained her Bachelor's Degree in Business Management from the State University of New York College at Buffalo in May 1993. Lisa grew up in Rochester, New York, but moved to the Tampa area in 1995.

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## COMMAND STAFF



### Captain Teri L. Uno Special Operations

**Captain Teri Uno** has served with our department since 1992 and has worked as a Field Training Officer, Detective, Corporal, Patrol Sergeant, Professional Standards Sergeant, and Patrol Lieutenant. She was raised in an Air Force family and has lived on notable bases such as Nellis AFB in Las Vegas, Nevada, Kubasaki AFB in Okinawa Prefecture, Japan, and Mountain Home AFB in Mountain Home, Idaho. After her father retired from military service, she lived in Georgia and eventually moved to Florida. She moved to Tampa in 1986 and was eventually hired by the Tampa International Airport Police Department. She is skilled in crisis management, criminal intelligence, mentoring new hires and current officers, and emergency management. Captain Uno enjoys water activities, such as fishing and boating, and is married to a Tampa Police Officer (Dean). They have two sons (Justin and Philip).

She has a Bachelor of Applied Science Degree from St. Petersburg College, a Master of Education from The University of Georgia. Captain Uno is a graduate from the Northwestern University School of Police Staff and Command 475.



### Captain Richard O'Connor Law Enforcement Operations

**Captain Richard O'Connor** joined the Tampa International Airport Police as a Lieutenant in 2016. While serving as Watch Commander, Richard brought extensive leadership, wisdom and experience to TIAPD.

Richard started his police career with the Tampa Police Department in 1988, earning the ranks of Sergeant, Lieutenant, Captain and Major. His many varied assignments include Field Training Officer, Latent Investigator, Homicide Detective, Shift Commander, and Commander of the Major Crimes Division, where he oversaw Homicide Unit, Sex and Family Violence Unit, the Fugitive Apprehension Unit and the Forensics Unit.

Richard's decorations include the Award of Valor, two Life Saving Awards and twice being named the Tampa Police Department's Officer of the Month.

Captain O'Connor received a certification from the International Association of Chiefs of Police for Leadership in Police Organizations. He currently holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Management from University of South Florida and his Master's Degree in Executive Leadership from Liberty University.

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## SENIOR MANAGER

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### Robert Rinehart Traffic Division Senior Manager

**Senior Manager Bob Rinehart** is a Tampa native who joined the United States Army after graduation from Robinson High School. While in the Army, he attained a Bachelor's Degree and completed studies that resulted in his attaining a certification in Homeland Security. Bob rose to the rank of Sergeant Major with multiple deployments in both Iraq and Afghanistan. The Army afforded Bob with the opportunity and experience in leading people. This experience included the management of large work forces in excess of 150 people, managing a 10-million-dollar budget, and working with combat forces that included Afghan soldiers. He was involved in planning and leading search and rescue operations. He coordinated and worked in operations that included other military services and was part of a team that managed the transportation of over 5,000 personnel.

Upon his retirement from the United States Army in July of 2013, Bob joined the Aviation Authority as a Traffic Supervisor. He was promoted to Traffic Manager in May of 2014. In the short time that Bob has been with the Aviation Authority, he has demonstrated strong leadership skills, is supportive of his employees, and believes strongly in providing world class customer service. He leads a team of 60 dedicated team members in our Traffic Department.



### Tiffany Kennedy Manager of Police Administration

Florida native by birth, Tiffany hails from Orlando. She graduated from both the University of Florida (Bachelors in Criminology) and Florida State University (Masters in Criminology). Since beginning her professional career as a Misdemeanor Probation Officer in Hillsborough County, Tiffany has over fifteen years' experience in the fields of Criminal Justice, Public Administration, Finance, and Human Resources.

As the Public Safety Administration Manager, Tiffany provides supervision of the Public Safety & Security Administration unit as well as management of department budgets, records, and procurement services. In addition, Tiffany is the current Vice

President of Membership for the Authority's Toastmasters corporate club – Plane Speaking @FlyTPA, and she is also a member of the Family Assistance Support Team (FAST).

Tiffany resides in Pasco County with her husband, two children, and one-year old Labradoodle (Nala Bee). She enjoys family outings that include traveling to local beaches, local parks and nature preserves.

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## 2021 SYKES OFFICER OF THE YEAR



### Officer Jean Tremblay

**Officer Jean Tremblay** Officer Jean (pronounced “John”) Tremblay has served with the Tampa International Airport Police Department since 2014.

In 2020, Officer Tremblay volunteered to serve on the \$1.25 million Public Safety Software System Project to replace a 20-year-old system. The new Public Safety Dispatch and Records Management System is projected to serve the Tampa International Airport Police Department and Airport Operations Center for many years to come. Therefore, it was paramount that a champion for this project step forward and take a personal interest in its success; Officer Tremblay was that person. His steadfast dedication to this project was met with resounding reviews from his peers, supervisors and the software vendors.

Officer Tremblay took the initiative to meet with stakeholders, gather suggestions, and create templates needed to bring this project to a successful completion. Assigned full time to the project, Officer Tremblay conducted information and training sessions for all the Department employees. He continues to serve as an administrator for this project continuously improving the product by listening to suggestions from end users.

Officer Tremblay has not only proven to be a conscientious and proactive Police Officer, he has also proven his dedication to his department and profession. For these reasons, Officer Tremblay is the 2021 Sykes Heroes Officer of the Year for the Tampa International Airport Police Department.

Jean is a loving partner to his fiancé, Kim and devoted father to his two children, Bailey (6 years old) and Jean III (2 years old).

It is for these reasons; Officer Tremblay is the Tampa International Airport Police Department Law Enforcement Officer of the Year for 2020.

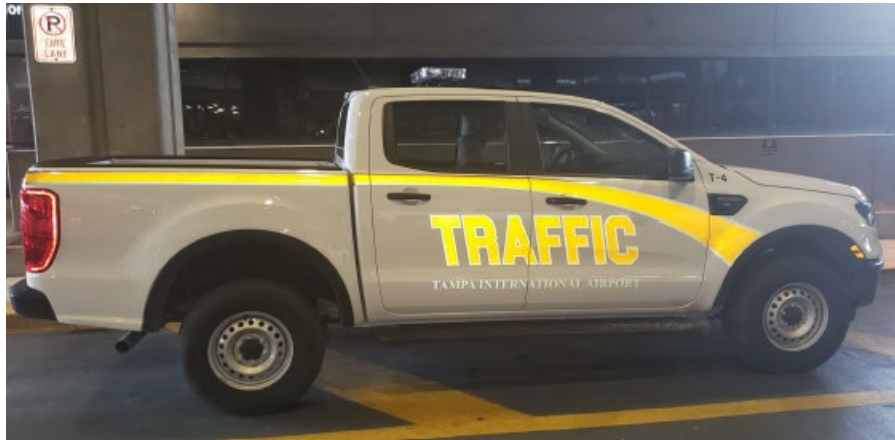
*Congratulations*

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# TRAFFIC DIVISION



It was another successful year for the Traffic Division in 2021! We supported multiple construction projects in and around the terminal, weathered another close call with Tropical Storm Elsa, the Stanley Cup and Lombardi Trophy came to “Champa Bay” and we welcomed new faces to the division and said farewell to others.

The existing arrival/departure drives were given a facelift with a ceiling replacement/lighting project which brought new life to the drives. The Blue Express curbs were unveiled which will help us spread traffic across multiple roadways. Almost every road with asphalt was repaved, a huge undertaking, as well new signs erected all over the campus roadways. The Traffic Division was called into action to support the multiple closures and detours that were necessary to complete these projects. As always, Traffic was managed very well causing only minor inconveniences to the traveling public. A majority of these projects were completed during the nighttime hours, so a shout out to our evening and midnight shifts who were worked closely with Ops, AOC and construction to ensure flawless execution.

Our ARO program continues to flourish and has received positive reviews from both Police and Traffic. Thanks to Lt Porter for running our recertification ensuring our ARO’s are up to date with the most recent procedures. We will continue to expand this program into the New Year.

Although our Traffic Division stays focused on traffic control, we still found some time to support a United Way program called “Talk to me baby” which is literacy initiative for elementary schools. Traffic division employees helped us get 2,000 books labeled with United Way stickers and some literature (English and Spanish) inside the books. These books were distributed to Seminole Heights Elementary.

In 2021, we hired eleven new traffic employees and had two promotions to Senior Traffic Specialist (Jarret Kilian and Supervisor (Kenny Vargas). We said farewell to a number of employees as well, two of those being Supervisor Steve Lee and Traffic Specialist Merry Jo Carper.

Steve Lee served as a Traffic Spec, Senior and Supervisor with the Traffic Division during his 8.5 years with the Authority. Steve is a retired Army Major, Special Forces, who brought his supervisory skills to the Traffic Division. In the military we have a saying, “leave it better than you found it”, and I think Steve did just that during his tenure. Steve is retired in Georgia.

Merry Jo Carper served with the Traffic Division for 22 outstanding years. There are very few people that can come to work with a smile on their face and commit themselves to making everyone else around them smile like Merry Jo. Her positive energy and commitment to helping others is her lasting legacy. Merry Jo retired here in Tampa.

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# TECHNOLOGY AND EVIDENCE

In 2021, the new police station plans were finalized and building began in earnest. The construction was in its final stages in late 2021 and the move is set for early 2022 with the evidence room getting a brand-new storage system!

Officer Veronica Hamilton became the full time Evidence Officer with duties that overlap into the Special Investigations Unit. Towards the end of 2021, in anticipation of the move into our new station in 2022, she embarked on a large purge of evidence while exploring the new evidence system that will serve our agency for decades to come.

She worked with a vendor that supplied evidence systems for other agencies in the Tampa Bay area. A new system was approved for 2021, which includes new lockers, storage, and bins which allow the evidence function to grow with our agency. Also, she ensured that the new space met industry ventilation requirements.

In 2021, Guest Services obtained the operation of Airport Lost and Found from the Police Department, however, both departments work closely to ensure items are secured and reunited with their rightful owners.

The Police Department was approved for an internal Information Technology position in 2021, and the new hire will onboard in 2022.

2022 brought a new year of full use of Records Enterprise Field Ops after every department member was issued an Authority cell phone.

Finally, the end of 2021 brought a total migration of our department's report records into the new RMS system. This daunting task was handled by Officer Jean Tremblay who ensured pertinent report items transferred into the system. The items reach back nearly two decades and ensures the system will provide the best record function for years to come.



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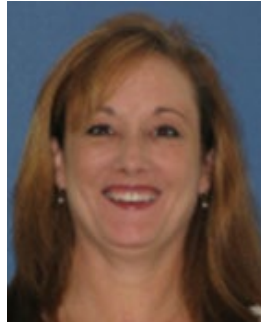


# POLICE ADMINISTRATION

The Public Safety & Security Administration (Admin) team continues to process not only reports through our RMS system, but purchase items, budget, and items that are vital to our department's success.



**Donna Mainous**  
Administrative Assistant I



**Trish Jeanfils**  
Administrative Assistant I

2021 Snapshot	
Processed Reports	1365
Disseminated Reports/CADs	2916
Citations	924
Parking Tickets/Voids	1728
Uniform/Equipment/Supplies	554
Monthly/Quarterly/Annual Reports	59

## Highlights:

- Five Year Service Award – Admin Specialist Donna Mainous
- Toastmasters: Admin Manager Tiffany Kennedy inducted as the 2021-22 Vice President of Membership for Plane Speaking @FlyTPA 2021-22.
- Training Opportunity: Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in the Workplace – Seven-week certificate program offered by the University of South Florida Muma College of Business Spring 2021. Admin Specialist Donna Mainous and Admin Manager Tiffany Kennedy successfully completed the program and received a digital certificate as well as a Credly badge.
- HCAA Volunteer Opportunities & Events – TPA Job Fair, Employee BBQ



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# ACCREDITATION



**Laura Rozansky**  
**Accreditation and Policy Development**

## TIAPD Achieves Reaccreditation!

Under the leadership of Manager Laura Rozansky, TIAPD received its first Re-Accreditation from the Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation, Inc. which recognizes we have maintained the highest level of professionalism by meeting almost 200 standards.

	Compliments	Complaints	Internal Investigations	Service-Related Inquiry
<b>Police</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Traffic</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>2021 Totals</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>

*Police – 60 compliments involving 92 officers*

*Traffic – 18 compliments involving 20 traffic specialists*

The screenshot shows a Zoom meeting interface with a grid of 18 participants. The main content area displays a presentation slide for the Tampa International Airport Police Department. The slide features the department's logo and lists the following information:

- Tampa International Airport Police Department**
- Charles Vazquez**  
Chief
- Laura Rozansky**  
Accreditation Manager
- Reaccreditation**

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## A Squad



01/10/2021: Hands Across the Bay provided pizza to TIAPD for Law Enforcement Appreciation Day.

Jan/Feb 2021: A Squad was part of the Super Bowl team, securing TPA as a safe venue for arriving fans and players. Worked with the TPA team for the Kansas City Chief's arrival to Tampa at Airside C. A Squad on duty Super Bowl Sunday.

07/23/2021: Officer Virt saw a man yelling incoherently on Red Departure Drive and followed him into the terminal (2021-00776). He radioed in his observations and followed the man to check his welfare. Officers Dastas and Tremblay arrived to assist. They followed the male as he ran down the stairs into Blue Baggage. They searched and located the male as he fought with a taxi driver on Blue Quad 2. Officer Virt and Officer Dastas confronted the combative male and took him into custody. The male was arrested for Car Jacking and Battery and it was a great job recognizing the unusual incident and person who needed to have a welfare check. Officer Virt's attention to detail and willingness to pursue an investigation led to a quick apprehension of a violent suspect and prevention of a stolen vehicle entering traffic.

08/21/2021: Clearwater Police Department and FDLE requested assistance locating a male wanted for attempted 1st Degree murder. The suspect shot his girlfriend multiple times on 08/19/2021. The suspect's phone was showing he was at TPA. Officers Virt and Beall searched the main terminal for the suspect. Officer Beall determined the suspect was a passenger on a Delta flight to JFK. Officers Virt and Soto responded to Airside E to the aircraft. They boarded the flight just prior to the door closing and took the suspect into custody without incident. This was excellent police work and Clearwater PD was very appreciative. Case 2021-00880.

11/18/2021: Officer Soto responded to a vehicle vs property crash at the entrance to Short Term parking. On arrival, the striking vehicle had left the scene. Officer Soto thoroughly investigated the scene and determined the over \$1,000 damage to HCAA property occurred. Officer Soto followed the debris trail into the Short-Term garage and located the suspect vehicle. He next identified the owner and located the suspect driver on an airside about to depart.

Officer Soto interviewed the suspect and issued him a criminal citation for leaving the scene of a crash. Officer Soto did a great job investigating the crash and locating the suspect.

12/02/2021: Clearwater PD advised TIAPD of a possible suicidal mother with her child. TIAPD officers located the mother and child in the airport. She was interviewed and not found to be in danger, nor was the child. The child had been in Tampa Bay visiting the father. The mother flew here to retrieve the child and stayed in a motel, then went to the father's home when she ran out of money. He refused to pay for their plane fare home and she left. He reported her as suicidal and law enforcement got involved. It turned out to be more of a child custody dispute. Officers Dastas and Sanchez were able to get them plane tickets home using Hands Across the Bay funds on Frontier Airlines and they flew home. They also gave them a \$25 gift card to get food. They were very appreciative.



# PATROL DIVISION

## B Squad

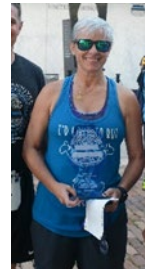
Under the management of Lieutenant Scott Seifer, B squad members won several awards. Cpl. Woodard was selected as the Officer of the Quarter for her leadership and supervision of B squad during the absence of a squad sergeant. Cpl. Woodard and Officer Lopez received a Lifesaving award. Officer Garcon received a certificate of appreciation for assisting a passenger and Officer Smith Jr. was selected for an award for his enthusiasm and investigations of several incidents while on B squad.



B Squad members participated in several community events, such as Rappel for a Reason for Big Brother Big Sisters, Dr. Martin Luther King’s Breakfast and Parade, and the Gasparilla Children’s Parade in downtown Tampa. Several members continue to visit their “Littles” as members of Big Brother Big Sister involvement. B squad also participated in the Special Olympics Torch Run on Beautiful Bay Shore Boulevard. Cpl. Woodard placed second in the Tampa Police Memorial 5k Run.



B Squad was involved in several complex investigations, such as a case of illegal dumping where an RV had been abandoned in Drew Park. The owner was located and had the vehicle removed. There was a marijuana seizure of 2.5 lbs along with \$22,804 US Currency. B Squad investigated a video voyeurism case that resulted in the arrest of a habitual offender. Finally, the squad tracked down a vicious loose dog in the employee parking lot and was able to capture the dog without injury to the dog or officer. In a recent animal caper, B Squad members were able to find help for a dog that was abandoned by its owner at the ticket desk.



Lastly, 2021 was the final Shift Bid and holiday season for one of the long-time members of the Tampa International Airport Police Department. Lieutenant Seifer will retire from the agency in April of 2022 after having an illustrious 32-year career with the agency. An avid weapon enthusiast and great leader, Lieutenant Seifer will be greatly missed by B Squad and all our Authority community.

## C Squad

Determination, endurance and strength were the criterions by which this Department and its officers were measured in the trying times of 2021. The members of C Squad were steadfast in their persistence and dedication throughout a pandemic that not only effected their profession, but also the industry and community to which this Department is committed. The men and women of C Squad refused to concede to impediments and triumphed in providing this community with excellence in safety and security.

C Squad was on duty the weekend Tampa hosted Super Bowl LV. C Squad handled grid locked traffic on the Friday before the Super Bowl and several disturbances throughout the weekend. The morning of Super Bowl Sunday, the squad worked well together during a Status One in conjunction with a water main break on the Inbound Parkway that caused an inbound lane to collapse. Due to the swift actions of C Squad, and the coordination with the oncoming day shift, there was minimal disruption to traffic entering the airport.

Though much of the training was limited due to COVID-19, C Squad managed to tally a total of 316 hours of training and continued education. Classes such as Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs, Command Institute Leadership, Kinesics, Gracie Survival Tactics, Injury and Death Investigations and many more were taken.

Listed here are some of the highlighted cases throughout 2021:

**2021-00258** Disorderly Intoxication/Resist without Violence – Officers responded to Airside A reference an intoxicated male. They escorted him to Transfer level Sikorsky Core in attempts to assist him with rebooking and obtaining a ride off property. The male subject become uncooperative and began bothering passengers. He was placed under arrest for Disorderly Intoxication and Resist without Violence. The subject began banging his head against the patrol vehicle and had to be restrained. He was transported to St. Joseph’s where it was determined that his BAC was a .394.

**2021-00260** Baker Act – Officers responded to Airside E Truck Court reference a female subject trespassing and attempting to climb the fence to gain access to the AOA (Ramp area). The subject threw her bags and dog over the fence. Officer Kozera was bitten by the dog while trying to rescue it. Cpl. Pell and Officer Koehl rescued the dog and contacted the human society. Officer Gregg completed a thorough investigation and Baker Acted the female.

**2021-00286** Battery/Domestic Violence – Officers responded to Long Term Parking reference a male caller reporting that he was battered by his girlfriend. The suspect was located and taken into custody. During transport the suspect made suicidal statements and complained of chest pains (Baker Act 2021-00287). The charges were direct filed with the State Attorney’s Office.

**2021-00385** Battery/Domestic Violence – Officers responded to Blue Arrivals reference a disturbance between a male and female that was physical in nature. The male subject was observed pushing the female and striking her with his hand knocking her to the ground. The female suffered minor injury but did not require medical attention. The male was arrested and transported to Orient Road Jail.

## D Squad

During the 2021 bid year, D Squad had some remarkable achievements and memories. On June 15th, Officer Lopez was sworn in by Chief Charlie Vazquez, along with other members of the department.

Multiple officers received compliments for their above and beyond customer service to the guests of TPA. Officer Vic Gancedo received a Life Saving award for administering CPR on an unresponsive female patron who stopped breathing and didn't have a pulse after having a seizure in Blue Baggage Claim. Officer Lopez also received a Life Saving award for administering CPR on a female who was in cardiac arrest at Airside C. Both subjects regained a pulse and consciousness after the officers' prompt and alert actions. During this year, Officers Lopez, Hinkle, and Tamboe all received certificates of appreciation for outstanding work performance.

In June of this year, the entire squad took part in a traffic crash fatality on the Outbound Parkway. The vehicle caught fire and the driver succumbed to his injuries. Due to the teamwork of the squad, the incident was handled professionally and swiftly to include traffic mitigation procedures.

At the end of this bid year, D Squad participated in the HCAA Active Threat Exercise conducted at the SkyCenter. Again, the officers proved their capabilities to work as a solid team through communication and tactics. D Squad officers were able to quickly respond, identify and neutralize the threat, and render aid to the wounded. Their supervisory team couldn't be more proud to work with such a great group of officers.





# PATROL DIVISION

## Honor Guard



The Honor Guard is comprised of eight officers who dedicate themselves to the solemn representation of fallen or deceased police officers and their families in need. They also present colors at opening ceremonies for major events. In 2020, the Honor Guard participated in memorial events for 9-11 and fallen officer events. The Honor Guard has attended numerous funerals of police officers killed in the line of duty within the State of Florida, as well as retired officer funerals.

## Bike Unit



The Tampa International Airport Police Department bikes are equipped with lights for increased visibility and a rear patrol bag containing all the necessary paperwork and equipment for an officer during their shift.

The bike unit has a full strength with 12 certified members. All members must show physical capabilities necessary to safely operate a bike in the demanding Florida environment. Bike members are responsible for handling calls just as patrol officers in a vehicle or on foot. They must show proficiency in bike skills each year to keep their bike membership intact. Bike members have been instrumental in completing several high priority calls, to include locating missing persons and suicidal subjects, as well as assisting airport patrons in their time of need.



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# K9 UNIT



2021 has been a tremendously successful year for the TIAPD K9 Unit. In fact, it was one of the busiest and most productive years ever. During the year, the TIAPD K9 unit conducted 15 public demonstrations and over 2,000 proactive deployments. Additionally, over 110 security details related to sports teams, dignitary protection, and fallen service member escorts were covered by our Explosives and Narcotics Detection K9 Teams. Our narcotics interdiction efforts resulted in the seizure of approximately 420 pounds of illegal drugs, and over \$640,000 with 9 subjects taken into custody.

The K9 Unit worked with our partner agencies on a local, state, and federal level to provide K9 Team coverage for events that garnered national and inter-national recognition such as Presidential campaign details, coverage for our Stanley Cup Champions, the Tampa Bay Lightning, and our Super Bowl Champions, the Tampa Bay Buccaneers. This year's Super Bowl was a significant challenge as our city played host to the world for this massive event. The TIAPD K9 Unit played a significant role, not only in providing protection for the Super Bowl venues, but in having to manage and secure the huge influx of visitors that came through the Tampa International Airport for the event. The TIAPD K9 Unit hosted 18 additional K9 Teams from across the nation to our ranks to cover the added responsibilities related to the Super Bowl.

Countless hours are also spent conducting the highest caliber and most realistic training possible. Training success is evidenced by the Unit's day to day deployments and is also validated as our K9 Unit engages in competitions, placing themselves up against other K9 teams from across the nation. This year, Corporal Traci Dietz and K9 Vika, Officer Chris Reggi and K9 Anya, and Detective. T.J. Donnelly and K9 Ikar made their way to Pensacola, Florida where they competed in the United States Police Canine Association, Region 1 Detection Trials. USPCA Region 1 comprises K9 Teams from across the states of Florida, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, and South Carolina. These three teams left Pensacola with 11 total trophies to include Top Narcotics Team Overall, Top Explosive Team Trophy, Top Narcotics Team Trophy, and First Place Outdoor Explosive Search. Additionally, Cpl. Traci Dietz and Vika represented TIAPD K9 at the USPCA National Trials in New Jersey where they walked away with the First Place Trophy for Indoor Explosives Search, Third Place Overall Team Trophy, and garnered 9th Place Overall in the Nation for Explosives Detection. They were also invited to compete in the First Annual ESPN Detection Dog Competition sponsored by ESPN and The American Kennel Club. The event was broadcast nationally on ESPN. When it comes to Annual Certifications for our K9 Teams, all 6 K9 Teams scored 100% on their annual testing/certifications. The Tampa International Airport Police Department K9 Unit serves as a valuable tactical tool, visible criminal deterrent, and a public relations face for the Hillsborough County Aviation Authority.



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# SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS UNIT

The Special Investigations Unit had a busy year with the single biggest seizure of drugs in TIAPD history, at 171.42 lbs. of marijuana seized, and the single biggest seizure of drug money as well. Everyone within the unit has received commendations during this past year: Detectives Flores, McDonald and Ewing were all recognized for preventing a woman from committing suicide. Detectives Marston and Mason were recognized for all the work that went with background investigations and subsequent new hires. K9 Officer Donnelly has been recognized by the US Police K9 Association as the 1st place Narcotics Detection Team, overall top dog, in the Southeast US, as well as the 1st place Inter-Agency Team, Narcotics Detection. Sergeant Durkin was also recognized with a lifesaving award.



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# SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS UNIT

	Cases Assigned	Cases Cleared	Arrests	Case Clearance Rate
Quarter 1	80	53	14	66%
Quarter 2	134	72	25	54%
Quarter 3	99	69	13	70%
Quarter 4	75	54	12	72%
2021 Totals	388	248	64	64%

Backgrounds	Reviewed	Forwarded	Investigated	Hired
Police	22	19	19	9
Traffic	18	18	19	11
AOC	34	34	29	14
2021 Totals	74	71	67	34

Narcotics Interdiction/Contraband Investigations	
Interdiction Deployments	221
K9 Arrest	8
Assist Outside Agency	10
K9 Training Hours	122
Public Demonstrations	13
Alert to Odor	63
Marijuana Seized	25 lbs.
Methamphetamine	24.6 Grams
Narcotics Other	221
Patrol Assist	86
Total Search Areas (Vehicles/Luggage/Rooms, Etc.)	8360



# TACTICAL RESPONSE AND TRAINING UNIT



The Tactical Response Unit (TRU) is responsible for reacting to critical incidents, dignitary details, special details, fallen soldier details, high priority calls, and

Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) implementation.

At the beginning of the year TRU was tasked with duties related to the Super Bowl which included many details and long operational periods.

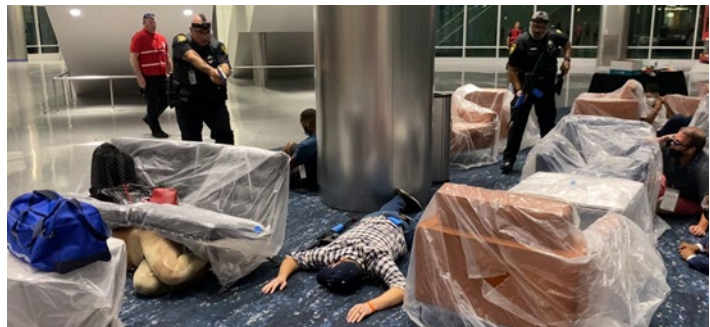
TRU also humbly assisted various US military branches in over a dozen fallen soldier details through 2021. TRU coordinated and assisted the United States Secret Service with numerous dignitary protection details during 2021 to include visits from the Former President of the United States as well as the First Lady of the United States.



TRU is also responsible for team training, the Department's high liability training, in-service training, advanced and specialized external training, holdover training for newly hired officers, and the Citizen's Police Academy.

The Training Unit also conducts quarterly department wide firearms training. The need to remain vigilant in uncertain times is more important than ever. Our quarterly firearms training utilizes new and relevant techniques to keep our officers proficient in a variety of tactical situations.

During the year, TRU thoroughly planned and implemented a mock active threat exercise in October 2021. The mock exercise was a multi-threat, mass casualty exercise designed to demonstrate our department's ability to respond to a force-on-force situation, as well as interoperability between HCAA and our relevant mutual aid agencies such as TSA, Tampa Fire Rescue and ARFF, airlines, ambassadors and other tenants and airport community members. The planning period took many months but provided an invaluable learning opportunity for all participants.



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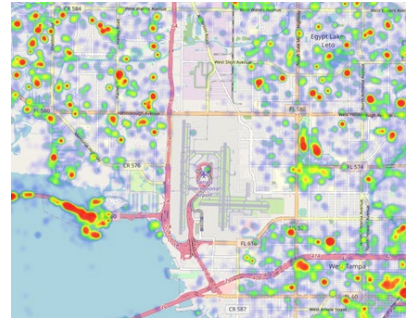
# TACTICAL RESPONSE AND TRAINING UNIT

During the year, two TRU unit members were promoted: Corporal Wendy Shughart promoted to Sergeant, and Officer Mike Cooper promoted to Corporal. Congratulations, thank you for your hard work and leadership! We are looking forward to another great year.

At the beginning of 2021 Detective Jones hosted multiple UAS familiarization training sessions for outside law enforcement agencies. In partnership with federal agencies & local law enforcement agencies, these sessions were helpful in getting the Tampa Bay area first responders ready for responding to UAS incidents during the week leading up to and the big game, Superbowl LV. Working directly with the National Football League Security, Federal Prosecutors, Federal Law Enforcement Agencies, The Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office, and the Tampa Police Department, to name a few, the Tampa Bay Area was well educated and prepared to respond to UAS incidents, large or small.

Throughout the pre and post event planning discussions, it was determined the Tampa Bay area law enforcement agencies were on different "pages" related to UAS response. Detective Jones helped establish and host the very first Tampa Bay Area Regional Unmanned Aircraft Systems Working Group. This group now meets quarterly and consists of representatives from local, federal, and regional law enforcement members, including representation from the Statewide Prosecutors office, State Attorney, agency legal teams, the FBI, and MacDill Airforce Base.

During the year, multiple UAS investigations took place which led to enforcement and/or education while partnering with the FAA. Mostly, operators who are/were uneducated about the laws, regulations, and ordinances related to operating a "Drone" near the Tampa Airport or within the Class B airspace. As you can see from the attached Heat Map (Photo 1), from January 1, 2021, through December 31, 2021, the amount of unauthorized or illegal flights near the airport, indicates there is still a lot of work to do.



We continue our efforts through the year, working with Airport Operations conducting training, tabletop exercises, and working groups. In addition to working with our outside agency partners and legal teams to create legislation, change legal definitions, and provide clear guidance in the future for law enforcements' role in combatting illegal, unsafe, or un-authorized UAS flights. We will continue to support our partners at the TSA, FBI, Tampa Police, Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office and other agencies as we recognize the challenges related to UAS response.





# AIRPORT RESOURCE OFFICER (ARO)



Airport Resource Officers, or AROs, are Traffic Specialists that are trained in accordance with our Police Field Training Program with regards to certain non-police related tasks, such as medical calls and lost & found calls.

Both a Police Officer and an ARO will be dispatched to a medical call. If the Officer determines that the call did not arise out of a criminal action or does not involve serious bodily injury or death, the Officer will turn the scene over the ARO. At that point, the ARO will complete the report and review and download all the relevant

video footage from our GENETEC system. This allows your Police Officers to get back in service and focus on their main objective – keeping the Airport safe and secure and remaining highly visible.

*Traffic Specialist Benjamin Widlits performing his ARO duties on the Airside*

2021 Snapshot	
Medical Reports	190
Lost and Found	450
Unattended Bags	617



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# COMMUNITY OUTREACH



Sergeant Eric Diaz participated in Big Brothers Big Sisters Rappel for a Reason, where each participant scaling the side of the building must raise a minimum of \$1,500, which is the actual cost of supporting one match between an adult volunteer and a child -- a Big and a Little -- for a year.



The funds they raise will allow BBBS to further the potential of approximately 65 children in the Tampa Bay area and the children benefit in so many positive ways from having a Big Brother or Big Sister in their young lives.

## Girls in Aviation Day



Sheltair hosted the annual Girls in Aviation Day on September 25. GIAD is intended for up to 100 guests, typically girls from ages 8 to 17. This event provides many learning opportunities,



displays, friendly competitions, prizes, vendors, caterers,

speakers, and more. TIAPD had representatives from K9 and the Tactical Response Unit, as well as Tampa Fire ARFF.



K9 Officer Preyer enjoys a moment with Thunderbug!



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# COMMUNITY OUTREACH

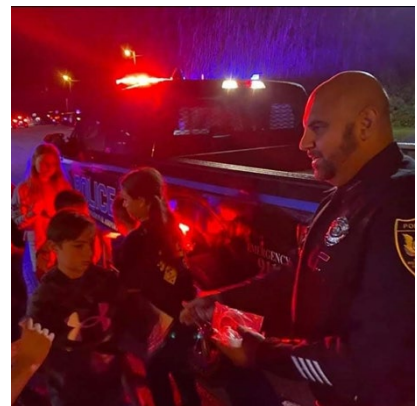
## Citizens Police Academy



After a hiatus in 2020, the TPA CPA came back starting with Summer Session 4 and Fall Session 5. The participants from each session were able to learn about the law enforcement profession, participate in our physical abilities test, train and shoot firearms with certified instructors, and view K9 demonstrations. At the end, there is a graduation and highlight video that shows the experience of the prior six weeks in class!



Officer Soto met with Cub Scout Pack 2693, Bears and Webelos, who were excited to engage with **Officer Soto** and get a close up view of a TIAPD Patrol Truck! The Bear Den earned their Paws in Action badge while the Webelos earned their Build My Own Hero adventure patch!



Julie Weintraub from Hands Across the Bay provided pizza to TIAPD for Law Enforcement Appreciation Day.

TIAPD K9 was recognized at the June Board meeting for their efforts during the TSA evaluations and Super Bowl LV preparations and execution.



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## COMMUNITY OUTREACH



Once again, the police department, to include Admin, Traffic, and Police, led the way in raising donations Authority-wide for Toys for Tots. In all, 2,094 toys and 94 bikes were donated to deserving children across the Tampa Bay region! On December 11, **Chief Vazquez, Sergeant**

**Diaz, Shari Kopp** and her husband **Joel** and daughter **Briana**, with a special guest appearance by **Al Illustrato** and his wife, shopped until they at Target in Wesley Chapel.



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# COMMUNITY OUTREACH



Working with United Way, the Traffic Division assisted with a literacy program for elementary schools called "Talk to Me, Baby." Over 2,000 books were labeled with United Way stickers and literature (in English and Spanish) to encourage youngsters to read!

These books were then distributed to Seminole Heights Elementary at the end of the month.

**Officer Veronica Hamilton** assisted a guest who was having trouble accessing the funds on his debit card. The man had some mental issues and needed assistance. Officer Hamilton and Southwest Airlines worked with him for several hours trying to get him to St. Louis to his child and girlfriend. They were unable to access what little money he had in the bank. We turned to Hands Across the Bay for assistance and they offered to pay for the man's plane fare. Southwest Airlines assisted by giving him every discount they could. Good job to Officer Hamilton for sticking with the problem and finding a solution.



**Officer Perilla** is active in his community and in November participated in a turkey collection for people in need. He also raised funds to run in the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the New York City Marathon!

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# COMMUNITY OUTREACH



On Monday April 19th, 2021, **Corporal Hallie Pell**, Air Force Reserve Master Sergeant, re-enlisted.

The Officiant was **Lieutenant Scott Seifer**/Air Force Major (Ret).



**Captain Teri Uno** paid a visit to the Hillsborough County Pet Resource Center to bring awareness to adoptable pets needing homes. She met Willump and Biloxi and fell head over heels. Soon after their photos were featured on the Resource Center's Facebook page, and our department Facebook page, both furry creatures were adopted into loving homes!



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# COMMUNITY OUTREACH

On June 2, 2021, **Captain Teri Uno, Corporal Tammi Severin, Officer Gina Maggiacomo, and Tactical Officer Britt Verret** participated in the Hillsborough County Habitat for Humanity Women Build for Shalonda Granger and her twin girls. Women Build is a woman-focused Habitat for Humanity home build event that typically spans an 8 – 12-week period.



Women Build is a call to action for women looking to better their community and spread awareness of the challenges for families who can't afford decent housing. It empowers women volunteers to participate in an exciting experience constructing a home for a local family. It also provides a hands-on opportunity for women to be proactive in addressing the low-income housing needs in their

communities by helping families build strength, stability, and independence through affordable



homeownership. The work is vital, the impact lasting.

Since 1991, women from all walks of life have come together to participate in Women Build events at Habitat for Humanity affiliate locations throughout the U.S. Habitat for Humanity of Hillsborough County officially joined this increasingly popular tradition by hosting its first annual Women Build in the spring of 2017.



The TIAPD team, "Warrior Women" have participated for the last three years. Each member must raise at least \$600 to participate. Through the help of Authority members and friends/family, the team surpassed its goal to participate and help fund the house for Shalonda and her girls. On September 25, 2021, the dedication was held, and Shalonda received the keys to her new home!



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# COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Members of TIAPD posed with Lord Stanley after our Tampa Bay Lightning's back-to-back win of the Stanley Cup!



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# 2021 AWARDS/PROMOTIONS/ACHIEVEMENTS



On September 10, 2021, **Richard O'Connor** was recognized as promoted from Lieutenant to Captain of Law Enforcement Operations.



On September 10, 2021, **Cheryl Porter** was recognized as promoted from Sergeant to Lieutenant.



On September 10, 2021, **Derek Wood** was recognized as promoted from Corporal to Sergeant.



On March 5, 2021, **Wendy Shughart** was recognized as promoted from Corporal to Sergeant.



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# 2021 AWARDS/PROMOTIONS/ACHIEVEMENTS



On March 5, 2021, **Hallie Pell** was recognized as promoted from Officer to Corporal.



On September 10, 2021, **Michael Cooper** was recognized as promoted from Officer to Corporal.



On September 10, 2021, **Kenny Garcia-Vargas** was recognized as promoted from Senior Traffic Specialist to Senior Traffic Supervisor.

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# 2021 AWARDS/PROMOTIONS/ACHIEVEMENTS



## Officer of the Quarter

**Corporal Tammi Woodard** was assigned as the acting Sergeant for B Squad after the retirement of the previous Squad Sergeant. She assumed the assignment at the beginning of November 2020 and remained in the position until March 2021. During this time, Corporal Woodard acted as the squad Sergeant without the benefit of a Squad Corporal to assist her. She addressed all squad daily administrative tasks, squad scheduling, report editing and, while necessary, squad disciplinary matters. Corporal Woodard supervised the squad, she also maintained her responsibility as a squad member by

continuing to handle calls for service. Her attitude and demeanor was consistent with that of a supervisor with much more tenure. She was dedicated to preparing herself to be aware of all squad issues that may affect the cohesiveness of the squad. Corporal Woodard kept her chain of command informed and up to date on the activity of the squad and its members. She took the initiative to prepare a presentation for the incoming Sergeant and presented it with passion and professionalism. Her actions and attitude displayed a high level of commitment to the Tampa International Airport Police Department. It is for this reason Corporal Woodard has been selected as Officer of the Quarter.



## Lifesaving Award

On December 4, 2020, **Officer Carlos Lopez** responded to Airside C Gate 33 reference a female suffering from a seizure. Upon arrival, he assessed the patient and began to administer first aid. However, he noticed her condition worsened and he realized she was going into cardiac arrest. Officer Lopez administered CPR and utilized an AED. The patient was transported where she regained her pulse and was placed in the Intensive Care Unit. Officer Lopez saved the patient's life with his prompt and alert actions.



## Lifesaving Award

On September 8, 2020, **Sergeant Kevin Durkin** was off duty and witness a horrific traffic crash involving a pedestrian. Recognizing the pedestrian had life-threatening injuries, Sergeant Durkin directed his spouse to call EMS while he used his belt to create a makeshift tourniquet to relieve pressure on the victim's multiple compound leg fractures and femoral bleeding. Several days after the crash, the victim spoke with Sergeant Durkin and exclaimed that Durkin saved his life.

# 2021 AWARDS/PROMOTIONS/ACHIEVEMENTS



## Lifesaving Award

On June 25, 2021, **Officers Victor Gancedo** and **Robert Cruz** responded to Blue Baggage Earhart Core regarding a female subject who was having a seizure and bleeding from the mouth. Upon arrival, the officers observed the female in an active seizure and laying on her left side. After a few minutes, the female stopped seizing and became unresponsive and ceased breathing. The officers were unable to locate a pulse and applied an Automatic External Defibrillator as well as CPR. After four rounds of compressions and breaths, the female

began breathing but was still unresponsive. When emergency personnel arrived, they noted she had regained a pulse. She was transported to St. Joseph's for further evaluation. The quick actions of these officers were paramount to the successful resolution of this incident.



## Exceptional Achievement

**Officer Steven Soto** manages the Tampa International Airport Police Department vehicle fleet. He voluntarily assumes to take on this important responsibility. He skillfully and enthusiastically coordinates with the HCAA Fleet Maintenance Supervisor, Fleet Maintenance Leader and Information Technology personnel to ensure TIAPD's vehicles are well maintained and are at the highest state of readiness. Officer Soto organizes the purchasing of new vehicles ensuring they are equipped

as specified by contract and all equipment is functioning properly. He coordinates maintenance and repairs between Fleet Maintenance and IT to ensure computer, radio and video systems all function correctly.

Officer Soto has built rapport with the City of Tampa Fleet Management to have police vehicle's speedometers certified for traffic enforcement. Officer Soto reads all vehicle inspection reports (approximately 18 per day), looking for issues and scheduling their repair. Officer Soto assists both captains with all matters involving the vehicle fleet. His automotive expertise is invaluable in deciding what maintenance is needed and what can be deferred so that an appropriate number of vehicles are available. He monitors the calendar and advises Fleet Maintenance when it is appropriate to remove vehicles from service for extended periods of time. Officer Soto regularly produces vehicle update reports for supervisors pertaining to the condition of the fleet, when replacement vehicles can be expected, and what repairs are being performed. Managing the fleet is a full-time job, which Officer Soto performs in addition to his duties as a patrol officer, Bike Squad member and Field Training Officer. His efforts are exemplary, and he performs his duties with pride and enthusiasm. It is for these reasons that Officer Steven Soto is a recipient of the Exceptional Achievement Award.

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## 2021 AWARDS/PROMOTIONS/ACHIEVEMENTS



### Exceptional Achievement

On July 1, 2020, at 1840 hours, **Officers Gancedo and Cruz** responded to the Long-Term Parking Garage Level 8 for a welfare check of an adult male that was loitering near the north wall of the parking garage. They arrived to find a suicidal subject who was in possession of a box cutter and was in a manic state. The officers made multiple attempts to de-escalate the situation and establish a dialogue with the subject.

These efforts were ignored by the subject who placed the box cutter against his own neck and threatened to take his own life. With officers still attempting to talk to the subject, the subject turned and began to sprint towards the north garage wall. Officers Gancedo and Cruz engaged the subject with their Tasers and were able to incapacitate the subject and save his life. The subject was taken into custody and transported to St Joseph's Hospital under the Baker Act. Their ability to assess the situation and act quickly undoubtedly prevented the subject from taking his own life.



### Exceptional Achievement

On September 1, 2020, **Corporal Tammi Woodard and Officers Patrick Koehl and James Basnight** received a call for a check on welfare in the Marriott Hotel. The reportee stated her daughter was not taking her medications, was suicidal and threatening to hang herself. Her former husband also made a similar report, adding that the subject had contacted him several times that morning expressing her intent to harm herself.

Upon arrival at the Marriot, the officers contacted the hotel General Manager and learned she was exhibiting strange behavior when she checked in the night before. The General Manager provided the subject's room number to the officers.

Attempts to get the subject to open her door were unsuccessful, but they could hear the subject's slurred and faint speech from in the room. The Officers attempted to make entry using a master key card but were unable because the door was dead bolted from the inside. When all communication stopped, **Sergeant Shughart and Officer Verret** forced entry into the room. They found the subject in the shower, conscious but in a state of confusion, with a satin cloth tied around her neck. At first glance, it appeared to the officers that she was trying to hang herself, but the satin cloth was not secured to anything that would support her body weight. Due to the reports from her family members and the subject's unusual behavior, she was taken into custody for her own protection under the provisions of Florida's Baker act.

# 2021 AWARDS/PROMOTIONS/ACHIEVEMENTS



## Exceptional Achievement

Few activities are as vital to the success of an organization than recruiting quality employees. In addition to their regular duties in the Special Investigations Unit, **Detectives Mike Mason and Mike Marston** are responsible for this vital task. These two detectives reviewed over two dozen police applications and conducted 15 background investigations for potential sworn hires. This included work histories, scheduling of physical agility tests and oral board interviews, and all resulted in producing several quality applicants. In addition, they also conducted nearly a

dozen background investigations for the Airport Operations Center.



## Exceptional Achievement

On March 20, 2021, **Detectives Steve McDonald and Mike Mason** responded to Tampa International Airport to investigate a suicide. Detective McDonald took a personal interest in the case and became concerned for the victim's loved ones. He attended the victim's funeral to show support and developed rapport with the family. This was to such an extent the family sent him thank you cards. During the evening of March 31, 2021, SIU Detectives learned that one of the loved ones came to the airport. Detective Matt Ewing contacted the AOC who dispatched officers to the parking garages. The

sibling was located by the officers. Though the original suicide could not have been prevented, Detectives McDonald and Flores, through their compassion and action, ensured the sibling would not succumb to further despair or physical harm.



## Exceptional Achievement

**Lieutenant Beth Baucom** received an Exceptional Achievement Award for assisting in the CFA Recreditation process, with the compliance of approximately 240 standards that encompassed security, safety, and health standards. She assisted with gathering proofs and analytical reports, as well as the internal mock inspection process. Lieutenant Baucom was also interviewed by the assessors during the actual inspection process. Her detailed manner was a crucial aspect to TIAPD achieving its first reaccreditation award.

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# 2021 AWARDS/PROMOTIONS/ACHIEVEMENTS



## Excellent Achievement

On August 15, 2020, **Officer Thomas Olsen** was on a routine patrol of the ticket level near the Yeager escalator when he observed an elderly male get on the escalator. The elderly male began to lose his balance as the escalator went up and he was struggling to remain upright. Officer Olsen sprinted up the escalator and grasped the elderly male to prevent him from falling. Officer Olsen's quick and decisive action prevented serious injury to the passenger.



## Certificate of Appreciation

On February 9, 2021, at 0930 hours, the AOC received calls from a citizen and the FAA tower advising there was a vehicle unlawfully traveling onto the ramp inside the secured area of the airfield. Multiple units responded to intercept the suspect vehicle. **Officers Carlos Lopez, Robert Cruz, and Patrick Koehl** quickly observed and contacted the vehicle on the Airside F ramp near the taxiway. Officers were able to remove the suspect from the vehicle although he was resisting arrest and take him into custody without further

incident. An interview of the subject uncovered he was in crisis and in a state of emotional distress. The suspect was transported to St. Joseph's Hospital for evaluation, and ultimately transported to Central Booking on felony charges.



## Certificate of Appreciation

On May 10, 2021, **Traffic Specialist Regina Glenn** encountered a passenger who was having a bad day. He was taken by wheelchair from the plane to the Spirit curbside, losing his phone so he was not able to contact his ride. Regina dialed several phone numbers for him to check on his ride and even provided him a bottled water. The passenger called to express his deepest gratitude. On June 14, 202, TS Glenn was working Red Arrivals when she assisted a departing guest who was escorting an elderly guest in a wheelchair. The woman was flustered about the

cost of Short Term, and TS Glenn suggested the economy lot. However, due to the woman's concerns on locating Remote Economy, TS Glenn assisted the woman in locating a parking spot in Economy and then returned to the terminal. She consistently assists the passengers and is dedicated to customer service.



# WELCOME



**Officer Jose Anaya** was born and raised on Long Island, New York. He is a military veteran, having honorably served in the United States Marine Corps. He started his law enforcement career in 1994 with the New York City Police Department. During his years with the department, he served in a vast array of specialized units, to include the Street Narcotics Enforcement Unit, Street Crime Unit and the Detective Bureau.

He has received comprehensive training in many areas of policing such as criminal investigators course, homicide investigations course, interview and interrogations training, plain clothes, weapons of mass destruction and HIDTA training. He also conducted search and rescue, while spending countless hours at the World Trade Center.



**Officer Michael Anderson** was born and raised in Long Island New York. He has lived in Florida since 1986. He is married to his wife, Robyn, and they have two daughters.

Officer Anderson followed in his father's footsteps; he is a product of the New York City Police Department. He began his career in 1991 as a Dispatcher for the Pasco County Sheriff's Office and then on to the Corrections Bureau as a Corrections Deputy.

In 1997, he attended the evening Police Academy and was offered a position as a Patrolman from the New Port Richey Police Department. Officer Anderson was an FTO, Vice & Narcotics Detective, Criminal Investigations Detective and then promoted to Detective Sergeant in the Investigations Bureau. In 2016, he was promoted to Lieutenant of Patrol Operations and a SWAT Operator. On April 29, 2021, he retired from the New Port Richey Police Department after 24 years of service and was accepted to the Tampa Airport Police Department on May 24, 2021.



**Officer Curtis Smith, Jr.** graduated from Hillsborough High School and attended St. Leo University. He has been married for 26 years and has three children. His oldest is a 2nd Lieutenant in the United States Air Force. Officer Smith started his law enforcement journey as a Tampa Police Explorer from 1985-1989. He served as a Military Policeman in the United States Army Reserves from 1989-1997. Officer Smith is a Desert Shield/Desert Storm Veteran. He volunteered with the Tampa Police Department as an Auxiliary Officer from 1991-1992. He became a Detention Deputy for Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office from 1992-1994. He was hired by the Tampa Police Department in 1994, where he served as

a Community Oriented Police Officer, FTO, Public Records Coordinator, Narcotics Officer, Recruiting/Background Investigator, Auto Theft Detective, Economic Crimes Detective, Career Criminal and Sex Offender Investigator, Environmental Crimes Detective, Construction Fraud Detective, and a Senior Patrol Corporal. In addition to the positions held, Officer Smith served 22-years as a member of the Tactical Response Team/S.W.A.T. After 25 years of service, he retired from the department on September 28, 2019. He maintained his status as a Tampa Police Reserve Force Officer until May of 2021.

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# WELCOME



**Officer Ryan Runge** started with Port Richey PD in 2015 as a civilian over Property and Evidence, Red Light Camera Operations, and Impound Lot Coordination. In the same year he became a Law Enforcement Auxiliary Officer and worked reserve until becoming a fully sworn law enforcement officer in 2017. Officer Runge holds an Associates of Science degree in Criminal Justice with a major in Homeland Security. He is also a Certified Evidence Specialist with the Property and Evidence Association of Florida. Officer Runge is married and has two children.



**Officer Stephanie Pascalli** is a native Floridian born in Clearwater, Florida. While she was growing up, she traveled across the United States playing competitive softball. She played softball for Pasco Hernando State College on a full ride scholarship and received her Associates in Arts. Officer Pascalli also received her Law Enforcement Certificate and became a Police Officer with New Port Richey Police where she was an officer for 10 years. During that time, she was a School Resource Officer, a Field Training Officer and made Master Patrol Officer II. She continued her education at Saint Leo University where she received her Bachelor's and her Master's Degree in Criminal Justice. Her free time revolves around her family; her husband and two sons.



**Officer Erick Sanchez** was born and raised in Guatemala City and immigrated to the United States in 1999. After receiving U.S. Citizenship, he decided to serve his community and pursue a career in as Law Enforcement.

In 2011, he began his career as a Law Enforcement Officer with the Plant City Police Department (PCPD) working as a Patrol Officer with the Patrol Division, Detective with the Criminal Investigation Unit (CIU), Special Investigations Unit (SIU), Mobile Field Force Team and Operator with the SWAT team.

In 2015, he was chosen to represent PCPD with the FBI Safe Streets Task Force where he federally indicted 20 high risk offenders from felons in possession of firearms, drug trafficking, threats through interstate communication, money laundering and more. As a PCPD Detective and FBI Task Force Officer, Officer Sanchez investigated violent gangs and coordinated investigations to obtain Federal prosecutions on violations such as racketeering, drug conspiracy, and firearms violations. During the time assigned to the FBI Task Force, he assisted other Special Agents and Divisions to investigate other cases such as human trafficking, money laundering and threats to life. In the last six years, Officer Sanchez assisted PCPD, FBI, and other Law Enforcement Agencies to translate from Spanish to English, interviews, documents, voice recordings for further investigations.

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# WELCOME



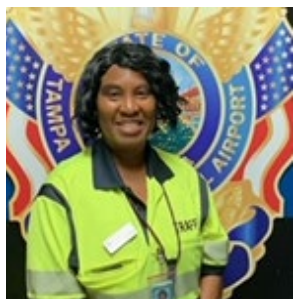
**Traffic Specialist Brady Daykin** is married to Tammy, and they have 4 grown children together. They have 3 grandchildren and spend a lot of time with them. Brady was born and raised in Brandon and graduated from Armwood High School. He worked security at Tropicana Field and used to work beer vending there as well. Brady has been working at Tropicana Field since the Rays inaugural season. He is also a security supervisor at Raymond James Stadium on the service level.



**Traffic Specialist Remon Metry** has been working at Tampa International Airport for approximately 4 years. He's had a wonderful experience working for several different companies during his time here. Remon is very happy to be starting a new chapter with the Traffic Division.



**Traffic Specialist Pedro Rodriguez** was born in Manhattan, NY, and moved to Puerto Rico when he was 2 ½ for school. He graduated from Puerto Rico University with a BA in Business Administration. His hobbies include playing the guitar, mountain biking, 10k's and triathlons. The last one he completed was an Ironman 70.3 in San Juan Puerto Rico. Pedro worked for the Agriculture Department of Puerto Rico as an Animal Technician. He also assisted the veterinarian of the state in the field. In 2019, Pedro worked as a Guest Services Representative and has been a Traffic Specialist since September 2021.



**Traffic Specialist Kim Hogan** was born in San Diego, California at the San Diego Naval Hospital. She has two sisters and two dogs. She moved to St. Petersburg in 1986 by way of Trenton, Florida after her father retired from the Navy. She has customer service experience of over 30 years, with the Florida Highway Patrol, Franklin Templeton, Quantum Aviation and the Tampa Bay Rays. She enjoys her family and friends, traveling, and talking with and assisting customers.



**Traffic Specialist Jerry Mohan** is originally from Trinidad and Tobago. He came to the United States looking for better way of life and better opportunities for him and his family. He has settled in Tampa and has been working odd jobs for the past 12 years. He enjoys the Traffic Division because it will allow him to grow and provide for his family.

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# WELCOME



**Traffic Specialist Jorge Santiago** is originally from Long Island N.Y. He moved to Tampa in 2016, looking for better opportunities for employment. Before coming to Tampa International Airport and the Traffic Division, He worked for the Florida Juvenile Detention System.



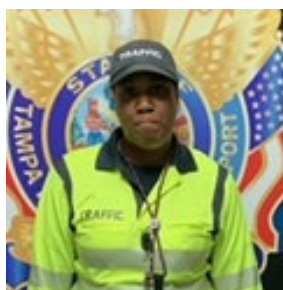
**Traffic Specialist Roderic Miller** is originally from New Jersey. Prior to working at Tampa Airport, he was a police officer with the Orange Police Department in Orange, NJ from August 1994 till he retired October 2019. He moved to Florida in November 2019 and loves every minute in the Sunshine State. His hobbies are watching sports and attending Pittsburgh Steelers football games. He enjoys his job as a traffic specialist and hopes to be an asset to the airport.



**Traffic Specialist James Rekully** is 33 years old and married to his high school sweetheart Alie. They have three children: Nathan (9), Ariana (5), and Gracelynn (18 months) who keep him busy with their extracurricular activities, such as travel baseball and competitive cheerleading. In his free time, he enjoys being on his boat fishing or just hanging out on the water with his family. He previously worked for Pasco County Sheriff's Office as a Detention Deputy for seven years. He decided to leave the Sheriff's Office and start a new career while staying in the FRS retirement system. He looks forward to the opportunity the Traffic Division has provided him and his future within the Aviation Authority.



**Traffic Specialist Ariel Pacheco** was working as a security officer before starting to work as a Traffic Specialist for Tampa International Airport. He has five children and has been married for over 25 years to Debbie Pacheco who is a retired Correctional Officer from New York. He did volunteer work for the fire department in North Babylon, New York for five years, and loved it. He worked as a truck driver for Keystone Automotive, then became a manager for the company. He helped open two warehouses in Albuquerque, New Mexico, and Arizona. He is also a gun collector. This job as a Traffic specialist is going to be a challenging job, but there is nothing he cannot accomplish.



**Traffic Specialist Kai Flowers** joined the Traffic Specialist team so she could have a chance to grow with this company and learn different aspects of the airport. She has heard a lot of great things about the Aviation Authority prior to joining and thought it would be a good fit for her. She is a mother of four children, and they are her motivation. She ushers at Agape Ministries Church of God in Christ. Originally from Grand Rapids, Michigan before moving to Tampa in 2009, Kai considers herself a people person with experience in many customer service-related jobs.

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# GOODBYE

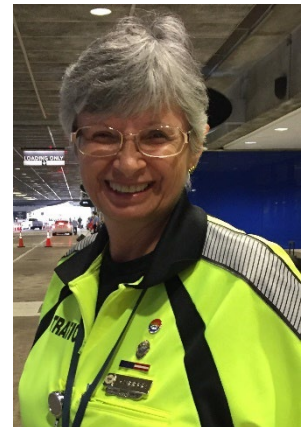
**Captain Ann Walters** retired August 27, 2021, after a 29-year career in our agency. Captain Walters was instrumental in the promotional process and the development of the Citizens Police Academy. A large portion of her command career centered on the Special Operations Division. Many thanks for her contributions and a well-earned retirement.



**Senior Traffic Supervisor Steve Lee** retired with 8 and a half years of service. Steve Lee served as a Traffic Spec, Senior and Supervisor with the Traffic Division during his 8.5 years with the authority. Steve is a retired Army Major, Special Forces, who brought his supervisory skills to the Traffic Division. In the military we have a saying, "leave it better than you found it" and I think Steve did just that during his tenure. Steve is retired in Georgia.



**Traffic Specialist Merry Jo Carper** served with the Traffic Division for 22 outstanding years. There are very few people that can come to work with a smile on their face and commit themselves to making everyone else around them smile like Merry Jo. Her positive energy and commitment to helping others is her lasting legacy. Merry Jo retired here in Tampa.



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# REMEMBRANCE



## Chief L. Warren Bennett

**Lowell Warren Bennett** died peacefully surrounded by his family on May 12, 2020, at the age of 83. A native Floridian, he was born on February 12, 1937, in Dade City, Florida.

Warren's greatest passions were his family, Florida football, service to his community and his deep Christian faith. Warren was a resident of Hillsborough County for 60 years. He graduated from Pasco High School in 1956 where he was a star running back for the Pasco Pirates. After receiving a football scholarship, Warren played for his beloved Florida Gators and later completed his degree in Criminal Justice from the University of Tampa. Warren began his career at Tampa Police Department where he retired as a Major in 1984.

After a short stint at the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office, he was hired at the Tampa International Airport Police Department as the Chief of Police. In his 11 years of his airport tenure, he oversaw the deputization of some officers as U.S. marshals. He also saw the department grow. He retired in 2002 after 11 years at the helm.

Throughout Warren's life, he exemplified compassion, professionalism, and held firm to his Christian beliefs. His legacy will be carried on by all those who he mentored and inspired.



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