

***Carmin***  
**Office of the Sheriff**



**State of Florida**  
**County of Lee**

To: Captain Tim Lalor  
Through: Lt. Faccilonga, Lt. Galloway  
From: Sergeant Matt Chitwood

Reference: Fort Myers Beach Deputy of the Month

On April 28, 2021 a group of subjects used thousands of counterfeit US Dollars across LCSO's Central, South, and West Districts to purchase pre-paid debit cards. Through investigative leads, a suspect vehicle was developed. On April 29, Detectives obtained additional information on the vehicle and Fort Myers Beach was developed as a possible last known location.

Deputy Rivera and Deputy Goff were assigned to Fort Myers Beach on April 29, and began checking every hotel, rental, and retail parking lot on Estero Island. In a short time, they located the suspect vehicle at a rental property. Rivera and Goff maintained surveillance on the vehicle until Economic Crimes Detectives arrived on scene. Several suspects were detained and questioned by not only members of the LCSO Economic Crimes Unit, but also members of the United States Secret Service. Based on the investigation, the suspects were arrested for two state counts of passing counterfeit currency, and are pending a federal indictment on more serious crimes related to counterfeit activity.

By taking the initiative and conducting an exhaustive search of the area, Deputy Rivera and Deputy Goff played a key role in locating several felony suspects who had committed crimes in West District. Based on their action I nominate them for Fort Myers Beach Deputy of the Month for April 2021.

Respectfully Submitted:

Sergeant Matt Chitwood 95-093

