



To: Jennifer D Robinson/cfp@cfp,
Cc: "Diane Hobley-Burney" <dhobley-burney@fppd.org>,
Bcc:
Subject: Fw: Re: Letter of compliment.
From: Nicholas Mimms/cfp - Wednesday 10/04/2017 08:01 AM

History: This message has been replied to.

From: davetcummings@yahoo.com
To: ludson@city-ftpierce.com
Cc:
Date: Oct 3, 2017, 11:47:16 PM
Subject: Letter of compliment.

Hello Mayor Hudson,

I wanted to take a moment to pass along a compliment for an officer in the Ft. Pierce Police Department. Naturally, after the hurricane and all of the problems it brought, there was already a high degree of stress and frustration just trying to get back to normal. It was certainly not the time to have a person enter your yard and steal your family pet of 11 years. Yet when I reached out to the city for help, the police department responded quickly as if it were the most important call of the day. The responding officer (McNeal) demonstrated a high degree of care and concern and treated the matter like any other significant crime. He coordinated with the Saint Lucie dispatcher (Melissa) to make contact with a couple who "found" our dog but were reluctant to hand him over. Our dog is a UKC champion American Eskimo (photos attached). In fact, this couple who had him seemed exceptionally prone to keep him and were suddenly about to head to Georgia. Despite this, Officer McNeal used his negotiating skills to keep them in town and to have them bring our dog to a half-way point so we could make an ID confirmation. In the meantime, I used my due diligence to get the dog's microchip ID records to prove the animal was mine. They met with us and officer McNeal, but kept the dog on a short leash and away from us. To be honest, the dog almost seemed like a different animal due to his delayed response, but fortunately due to Officer McNeal's efforts we recovered our beloved pet within hours of contacting the police department. When we took the dog home we observed that he had been sedated by the couple. They also lied to the officer about the color of his original collar and his tags were missing when they returned him to us. In addition, the Facebook pages of the couple show separate posts with a picture of our dog where they each claim he was "found" at completely different locations miles apart (His: South Indian River Dr) (Hers: Marina Dr & Flotilla Terrace) Neither matched their story that the dog just "wandered" into their yard, unless he went 5 miles, crossed the inter-coastal Causeway drawbridge and then walked all the way to the end of Hutchinson Island to Flotilla Terrace. A person who observed our dog's theft described a woman with her hair up - wearing yoga pants who took the dog into a large white truck or SUV partially concealed behind our wall. Of course the woman the officer and I met had here hair up, was wearing yoga pants and her boyfriend was driving a large white truck. Unfortunately, the sun's angle on our home security cameras prevented a clear visual of the thief's face, otherwise charges would have been pursued. This couple also advertised on their Facebook another expensive dog (an Australian Sheppard) that "happened" to be found one block from our house on Orange Ave on the same day our dog was taken. I have kept screenshots of these posts in case any other dogs in the area go missing. These posts of course have now been removed.

In the end, we must all recognize that shady people do exist and they come in all shapes and sizes, but we must also recognize the heroes we count on to stop them. Officer McNeal was our family's hero that day and he is a fine reflection of professionalism in every way. He brings great credit to his department, our new chief, and ultimately our city!

Linda, I wish you a wonderful day and as always, we thank you for all that you do for our city. Keep up the great work!

God bless,
Dave Cummings and family