

During 2015 the City of Weston suffered an increase in car burglaries; three quarters of the vehicles were unlocked when property was stolen from the interior. Deputy Pallotto working with the City of Weston developed a professional public service announcement (PSA) that promotes residents to "Lock it, Don't loose" initiative to reduce thefts from vehicles in Weston. The PSA airs several times a day on cable TV. Deputy Pallotto has made a concerted effort to educate residents at Community events to lock their car doors and conceal valuables. Year to date the City has experienced a 14 % decrease in car burglaries.

In November 2015 a toddler visiting the City of Weston had wandered into a canal unnoticed by family members and drowned. Drowning in Broward County is the leading cause of death in Children ages 1 to 4 years of age. Deputy Pallotto in response to this tragedy worked with the Broward County Drowning Prevention Task Force to develop a strategy in reducing drowning deaths. Deputy Pallotto conducted drowning prevention programs at large community pools, Rec Centers, and Homeowner Association meetings. Deputy Pallotto stressed four principles for preventing drowning of small children; Supervision, Knowledge of Risk, Deny water access, and teach survival skills. Due to Deputy Pallotto's hard work, the Drowning Prevention Task Force designated the City of Weston as "Water Smart", the first municipality to receive this designation. As of today there have been no reports of child drowning in the City of Weston.

As social media continues to expand in our daily lives, so has cyber bullying increased amongst our adolescence teens which has become a significant problem for students, parents, and schools. Bullying has been recognized nationally as a serious problem which could have severe consequences if it is not addressed. In response, Deputy Pallotto co-hosted an Anti-Bullying Symposiums in the City of Weston developing partnerships with local schools and hospitals. Deputy Pallotto also worked with the Broward County School Board to develop an anti-bullying program called "Think B4UPost". This program was rolled out to Weston Middle Schools this past year where the problem was more evident. Deputy Pallotto was instrumental in developing the lesson plan for the program which received accolades from parents and teachers. Think B4UPost program is now being introduced to Middle Schools throughout Broward County. Her efforts in addressing this problem has had a positive impact on teens and a reduction of complaints received from parents.

Deputy Pallotto is CEPTD certified and conducts security assessments on business's, religious institutions, and private homes throughout the City and County. In response to recent high profile active shootings & global terrorism events, Deputy Pallotto conducted security assessments on several local religious temples in Weston. She recommended important security improvements at each facility in order to increase their safety. She set up a Bank Alarm Response plan in which Bank Employees & Deputies receive training on handling bank Alarm calls. Deputy Pallotto continues to monitor the program to ensure its success. This program enhances our partnership with the business community and improves public safety.

During the summer, Deputy Pallotto host an eight week educational youth program called "The Weston Academy". The program targets Middle & High School students. It's designed to give teens a better understanding and respect of Law Enforcements role in the Community. The program includes tours of the Broward Sheriff's Office facilities, presentations by numerous specialty unit representatives such as Bomb, Crime Scene, K-9, Patrol, Air Marshall, and SWAT. Many of these students eventually become active volunteers for special events in the City and join the Weston Police Explorers. Deputies Pallotto developed this program ten years ago, there continues to be a wait list to enroll.

Average class size is 25-30 students.

Deputy Pallotto is a certified Police Instructor, she instructs children and teens on self-defense techniques. She also has conducted self Defense training for College bound girls on how to protect themselves from being victimized. The training she shares with students enables them to have confidence in their self-defense options should they encounter a violent individual. During the past year Deputy Pallotto was invited by the Broward County Parks Department to present a Safety Program for Employees. Over 100 county park employees attended the Safety presentation which included a lecture and Self Defense demonstration. The County Park Administrator was extremely happy with the training.

Deputy Pallotto coordinates, train and directs Weston COP volunteer program consisting of 70 volunteers and seven COP vehicles. These COP volunteers conduct routine directed patrols of parking lots and areas where criminal activity had been noted, they also participate and numerous City functions assisting with disbursing educational material at special events. The COP group is also responsible for collecting food from various supermarkets twice a week and delivering the food to various homeless shelters, food banks and Homeless organizations that feed the poor. Deputy Pallotto manages these activities to ensure that we continue this service.

During the past year a number of events occurred nationally that portrayed Law Enforcement in a negative manner. Deputy Pallotto wanted to strengthen the bond between Weston residents and District Law Enforcement. She partnered with a largest residential Community in Weston to sponsor a Law Enforcement Appreciation Day. Residents and children came out to play soccer with Deputies, view static displays of BSO Assets, food trucks provided lunch, bounce houses and other games to entertain the neighborhood children. The event enhanced Law Enforcements relationship with residents, especially the youth.

Deputy Pallotto also is the sole planner for the City of Weston annual Weston Safety Expo which includes the participation of dozens of Federal, State and Local Law Enforcement & Public Safety Agencies. Thousands of Weston residents attend the event each January.

Deputy Pallotto is the Weston Districts primary social media administrator who has direct contact with various Weston clubs, HOA's, and Weston chat rooms. Deputy Pallotto is engaged and provides Community feedback to Command, Traffic Unit, Criminal Investigations Unit, on issues related to traffic, crime, and/or suspicious activity. She also maintains and updates the District Website which educates residents on crime, District programs, and crime prevention tips.

Deputy Pallotto spends countless hours of her own time raising money for important community charities such as "Relay for Life, Special Olympics, and Harvest Drive. This past year she sponsored a water slide event which raised over \$10,000 for Special Olympics. Deputy Pallotto also participates in several civic organizations in which she has taken a leadership role in, for example: She is the PTA President for a Weston Elementary School (Imagine Charter), She sits on the Board for MADD (Community based Drunk Driving Educational & Enforcement Organization); She is a board member of JAFCO, (a Jewish organization that promotes Community involvement for foster children); She is a Board member of Florida Special Olympics Committee. Deputy Pallotto also maintains membership in several other organizations that are community oriented.

Deputy Pallotto is a highly motivated Crime Prevention Practitioner who is always looking to improve the services we provide to our residents. She is an exemplary Deputy who is professional, dedicated, and determined!

On behalf of the Weston District Command, I am proud to nominate Deputy Kari Pallotto for the 2016 Crime Prevention Practitioner Award. Please see attachments.

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UNITED STATES POSTAL INSPECTION SERVICE
MIAMI DIVISION

July 28, 2016

Dear Evaluation Committee:

I have personally known Deputy Kari Pallotto, professionally and as a friend since 2011 when I first moved to the City of Weston. Since then, I have proudly collaborated with her on numerous crime prevention initiatives.

Deputy Pallotto has always demonstrated a deep commitment to our community and the residents of the City of Weston. During the month of December, she coordinates a toy collection within the City of Weston, where Santa is happy to make his appearance and provide the children with their gifts.

In addition, Deputy Pallotto coordinates the Annual Weston Winter Safety Expo, of which my own agency has proudly participated in. This is another example where her talents and ability allow her to bring together the community as well as members from federal, state and local law enforcement agencies, who participate in this event providing safety and prevention tips to our residents.

During the summer, Deputy Pallotto also coordinates an annual summer youth program called Weston Police Services Academy. This summer youth program provides our city's youth with a unique opportunity to explore a multitude of areas that involve law enforcement, public safety and overall public service. In this academy, our youth is not only given a brief history of the Broward Sheriff's Office (BSO), but they are afforded true hands on experiences in such areas as Crime Scene Investigations (CSI), defensive tactics, and weapon safety and handling just to name a few. Upon graduation from this summer academy, each child becomes certified by the American Red Cross in CPR and First Aid Response.

Deputy Pallotto continues to make a positive impact in the lives of our children in our community, and as a parent and resident of the City of Weston, I know first-hand because my own child not only participated in the summer youth academy for two years, but continues to volunteer with her during other events.

As someone who genuinely cares about making a difference in the lives of others, I am truly humbled to call Deputy Pallotto (Kari) my friend.

It would be my great pleasure to recommend my friend, Deputy Kari Pallotto for the award of Crime Prevention Practitioner of The Year for the State of Florida.

With this I remain sincerely yours,


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