

FWC DIVISION OF LAW ENFORCEMENT FIELD OPERATIONS

**WEEKLY REPORT
May 22 – 28, 2009**

This report represents some events the FWC handled over the past week; however, it does not include all actions taken by the Division of Law Enforcement.

NORTHWEST REGION

ESCAMBIA COUNTY

Officer Royce Johnson was on Enhanced Patrol in the Perdido River Wildlife Management Area when he observed a truck parked at the Fillingim Landing gate. The two occupants, a man and a woman, were arguing. Officer Johnson approached and observed two bottles of liquor on the front seat. The 20-year-old male was intoxicated. The female had not been drinking and stated that the man had brought the alcohol. The subject was issued a notice to appear for possession of alcoholic beverages by a person under the age of 21.

Lieutenant Brian Lambert found an individual in possession of 15 blue fish of which 14 were undersize at Wayside Park in Gulf Breeze. Officer Fred Rondeau, who was nearby, responded to the scene. Officer Rondeau issued the individual notice to appear citations for possession of undersize and over-the-bag limit of blue fish.

Officer Fred Rondeau checked a vessel at Davenport Bayou in Santa Rosa County. He found the operator of the vessel in possession of three undersize red drum. Officer Rondeau issued the individual a notice to appear citations for over-the-bag limit and undersized red drum.

Officers Fred Rondeau and Keith Clark checked several individuals fishing from a small pier off of 17th Avenue in Pensacola. A computer check revealed one individual with an active warrant for failure to appear. Officer Rondeau booked the individual in the Escambia County Jail.

Officer Fred Rondeau checked a vessel near the Palafox Pier. He found the operator of the vessel in possession of a 37 inch red drum. Officer Rondeau issued the individual a notice to appear citation for possession of the oversize fish.

Officer Fred Rondeau checked a vessel in Pensacola Bay and found the individuals on board in possession of seven sharks. Officer Rondeau issued the vessel operator a notice to appear citation for over-the-bag limit of sharks.

Lieutenant Dan Hahr was on enhanced patrol at The Pipes Recreation Area in Perdido River Wildlife Management Area when he observed eight subjects enter the area in vehicles by way of a closed road. The subjects were in possession of 39 cans of beer and their ages ranged from 15 years to 18 years. Two subjects were issued notices to appear for possession of alcoholic beverages by a person under the age of 21. Three were issued citations for driving on a closed road.

Lieutenant Brian Lambert and Officer Keith Clark checked an individual fishing from the bank in Perdido Key. The individual was found in possession of an 11-inch black drum and an egg-bearing blue crab. Officer Clark issued the individual a notice to appear citation for the undersize black drum and a warning for the egg-bearing blue crab.

SANTA ROSA COUNTY

Officers Randy Webb and Ben Pineda responded to a complaint of a nuisance bear near a children's day care in Navarre. Upon arrival, the officers saw where the bear had killed several chickens at the day care. Upon closer inspection, the officers came into contact with the large

bear that then bolted into the nearby woods. Wildlife technicians were called to the scene and placed traps in an attempt to capture the bear. After several unsuccessful days, the technicians successfully tranquilized the bear and with the assistance of Officer Howard Jones removed the 410-pound male from the area.

Lieutenant Dan Hahr, Officers Joe Murphy and David Jernigan were on water patrol on the Blackwater River at approximately 9:30 p.m. The officers observed a vessel leave a sandbar with nine people onboard. The people appeared to be checking bush hooks and the officers approached the vessel to check it. Officer Murphy conducted a boating safety inspection and observed signs of impairment from the operator. After towing the vessel back to the camp on the sandbar, Officer Murphy administered field sobriety tasks and determined the operator was impaired. The man later provided a breath sample that was over the legal limit and he was booked for boating under the influence.

Officers Joe Murphy and David Jernigan were on water patrol on the Escambia River when they observed two subjects on the bank, one fishing and the other sitting on a cooler. There were numerous empty beer cans on the ground in front of them and the subject on the cooler admitted that there was beer in the cooler and that he had been drinking. Officer Murphy issued the subject a notice to appear for possession of alcoholic beverages by a person under the age of 21.

Officers David Jernigan and Joe Murphy were on patrol in the area of Mulat Bayou adjacent to Escambia Bay when they checked a subject in possession of four undersize black drum. Officer Jernigan issued the man a notice to appear for the violation.

Officer Steve Hoomes completed an investigation arising from a vessel inspection he was assigned. Upon inspection, he determined that the numbers on the vessel came back to another vessel that the man previously owned. When the man bought the current boat, he simply put the old registration numbers on it. Officer Hoomes issued the man a notice to appear for displaying unauthorized registration numbers on a vessel.

OKALOOSA COUNTY

Officers Pete Rockwell and Ken White responded to the Gulf of Mexico after two subjects' personal watercraft (PWC) capsized due to rough water conditions. The subjects were safely recovered and brought onboard the FWC patrol vessel. The PWC was towed to the U.S. Coast Guard Station because a tow company was unable to respond due to extremely rough conditions.

Lieutenant Dennis Welsh and Officer Pete Rockwell observed what appeared to be undersize gag grouper at a fish cleaning area at the Harbor Docks in Destin Harbor. The fish were hanging on display at a charter fishing boat's cleaning station. An inspection of the grouper revealed three of the fish to be undersize. The deckhand in possession and cleaning the fish was issued a citation for possession of undersize gag grouper.

Officers Steve Bartlett and Van Barrow responded to the Gulf of Mexico near the Destin Pass after receiving information about two kayaks capsizing. Officers Bartlett and Barrow located two subjects floating near the kayaks and brought them onboard the FWC patrol vessel. They were not injured and were transported safely to the beach.

Lieutenant Mark Hollinhead and Officer Matt Webb conducted a fishery inspection on a vessel

in Destin Pass. The inspection revealed undersize scamp. The captain was cited for the fish violation.

Officers Matt Webb and Alan Kirchinger were on water patrol near Crab Island when they observed a 9-foot vessel that appeared to be over capacity with passengers. During the safety equipment inspection, Officer Kirchinger verified the vessel was operating within Coast Guard capacity rating but observed signs of impairment. During afloat tasks, the vessel operator voluntarily admitted to having consumed several alcoholic beverages and stated he was probably too drunk to be driving. The vessel operator's performance during field sobriety tasks strongly indicated impairment. A sample of his breath at the Coast Guard Station Destin revealed .102. He was issued a written warning for failure to possess a registration on board the vessel and charged with boating under the influence. The operator was transported to the county jail by Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office.

Officer Matt Webb conducted a fishery inspection on a vessel in Destin Pass which revealed undersize king mackerel. The captain of the vessel was cited for the fish violation.

Officers Ryan Nelson and Ken White stopped a vessel in Destin Harbor to conduct a boating safety inspection. During the inspection, Officer Nelson noticed the operator displayed signs of impairment. Field sobriety tasks confirmed the operator was impaired. He was placed under arrest and transported to the U.S. Coast Guard Station in Destin where he agreed to a state certified breath test. A breath sample revealed his breath alcohol content was .171. He was booked into the Okaloosa County Jail and charged with operating a vessel while under the influence of alcohol.

Officer Alan Kirchinger and Reserve Officer Jeff Hahr were on water patrol near Crab Island when they observed a 21-foot pontoon vessel with nine passengers operating erratically. During a safety equipment inspection, Officer Kirchinger noticed signs of impairment and conducted afloat tasks. The vessel operator performed poorly and was transported to the U.S. Coast Guard Station in Destin where he also performed poorly on field sobriety tasks. At first the operator refused to submit to a breath test but then recanted and provided a breath sample of .108 and .117. The vessel operator was charged with boating under the influence and transported to the county jail by Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office.

Officer Ryan Nelson investigated a minor boating accident in Destin Harbor after a vessel struck the stern of another vessel that was docked. No one was injured and the damage was minor.

WALTON COUNTY

Captain Mary Sumner and Officer Don Walker were on water patrol in the Hog Town Bayou area when they located a gill net hidden along the shoreline. The gill net was approximately 100 yards. The use of gill or entangling nets of any size is prohibited. The net was removed from the shoreline and placed in storage to be destroyed at a later date.

HOLMES COUNTY

Responding to recent observations and complaints, Lieutenant Hampton Yates and Officers Larry Morris, Warren Walsingham, Lane Kinney, and the Holmes County Sheriff's Office personnel and their K-9 team worked Lake Cassidy and the boat ramp swimming area on a boating safety, littering, and crime prevention detail. The first two days of the weekend, weather

hampered enforcement resulting in only a couple of warnings issued. Officer Jim Brooks issued two citations and three warnings on Lake Victor.

Lieutenant Hampton Yates worked with investigations and Officers Larry Morris and Lane Kinney to arrest three individuals for electro fishing catfish on the Choctawhatchee River north of Baker Landing. Officer Kinney cited one of these individuals for insufficient safety equipment. The boat, motor and trailer along with the shocking device and nets were seized.

WASHINGTON COUNTY

Officers worked a bush hook and trotline detail on the Choctawhatchee River and inspected 12 vessels and issued six warnings. Officers Lane Kinney and Larry Morris worked Holmes Creek and conducted 27 vessel inspections resulting in 11 boating safety warnings and two citations. At a boat ramp near Vernon, Officer Warren Walsingham found a couple smoking marijuana. He cited the driver of the vehicle for possession of cannabis.

BAY COUNTY

Officer Mike Nobles worked the swimming areas within the Cat Creek section of the Econfina Wildlife Management Area regarding alcohol and littering problems. Several citations were issued to users who were observed littering and illegally possessing alcohol.

NORTH CENTRAL REGION

ALACHUA COUNTY

Officer Joseph Johnston and Dustin Bonds were working boating safety on Santa Fe Lake when they observed a vessel being operated with two small children on board not wearing their personal flotation devices. After stopping the vessel, they could smell an odor of burnt cannabis. After receiving permission to board the vessel and consent to search they located a small baggie of cannabis and a bag containing prescription pills. The operator admitted taking the pills from a family member. After receiving statements the operator was charged and transported to Alachua County Jail.

CITRUS COUNTY

Lieutenant Kenneth Mazzeo was on water patrol on King's Bay. Around 1845 hours he observed a personal watercraft (PWC) being operated in a reckless manner. The vessel dangerously weaved in and out of a congested area of swimmers and vessels on a full plane in a posted idle zone. The operator was not wearing a personal flotation device (PFD) and was doing donuts and spraying people in a threatening manner. During an attempted stop, the operator evaded Lieutenant Mazzeo and drove around his patrol boat. Lieutenants John Jones, Dennis Delapaz and Officer Samuel Riggs responded to assist in two additional patrol vessels. A short pursuit was initiated and the operator attempted to evade one of the responding boats. He was quickly surrounded and gave up. Once stopped, he was placed in a patrol boat, handcuffed and seated. The operator became combative and tried to jump overboard.

Lieutenant Mazzeo grabbed him and after a scuffle and resistance, restrained the operator on the FWC vessel's deck. During the scuffle the operator received injuries to his face from striking the deck. He continued to be combative while cuffed and was kicking, threatening and spitting at the responding officers. He was taken to shore where he continued to be combative to responding paramedics and the deputies used to transport. He was eventually taken to jail and booked on multiple charges including reckless operation of a vessel, fleeing and eluding in a vessel, resisting arrest with violence, operating a vessel while impaired (refused all tests), threatening a public servant, not wearing a PFD while operating a PWC and violation of an idle speed zone.

DIXIE AND GILCHRIST COUNTIES

Lieutenant Roy Williams and Officer Carl Butler were on water patrol on the Suwannee River. During a boating safety and fisheries inspection, the officers noticed the operator of the vessel having trouble performing normal tasks during the inspection. Officer Butler had the individual perform field sobriety tasks to which he performed very poorly. Officer Butler arrested the subject for boating under the influence. Once at the Gilchrist County Jail, the subject's breathalyzer results were .218 and .224. Further investigation revealed the subject had four prior DUIs.

DUVAL COUNTY

Officer Chris Holleman conducted a quality control and fishery inspection of a seafood dealer and found them to be selling undersize sheepshead. During the inspection, the owner of the business, a local commercial fisherman, arrived with a load of blue crabs that he said he picked up from Georgia. The owner was cited for selling undersize sheepshead and for transporting seafood across state lines without proper receipt documentation.

Officers Sandra Blackburn and Chris Holleman conducted a quality control and license inspection of two individuals selling blue crabs on Golfair Boulevard in Jacksonville. The vendor was cited for selling seafood with a retail license at the wrong designated location and his worker was booked in the Duval County Jail on a warrant.

While on water patrol, Investigator Kevin Larson discovered a runaway vessel in the St. Johns River near the Naval Air Station. The operator had been ejected in the water for approximately 30 minutes and was fortunately recovered uninjured. Officer Bob Brienza responded and assisted in an attempt to stop the vessel which eventually ran out of gas.

LEVY COUNTY

Officer Sam Dishman and Dustin Bonds observed an individual driving carelessly down county roads in Levy County. After stopping the individual and smelling a strong odor of alcohol, field sobriety tasks were performed. After failing the tasks, the individual was transported to the Levy

County Jail where he refused a breath test. The subject was booked into the county jail and was charged for driving under the influence.

NORTHEAST REGION

BREVARD COUNTY

Officer Damon Saunders conducted a fisheries inspection on a commercial crabber. The crabber was in possession of 83 whole stone crabs during the closed season. Many of the crabs were undersize and three of them were egg-bearing. He also had saltwater product license violations, failure to display permit numbers on vessel and boating safety issues. He was issued a notice to appear for all the resource violations and warnings for the other issues.

Officers Bryan Lee and Harold Lanier were on water patrol in the Haulover Canal. They were performing vessel safety inspections when they discovered information that led them to believe one of the vessel's occupants may have drugs in his possession. Officer Lee asked the subject if he was still smoking marijuana. The man replied, "Oh, no. I gave that stuff up." Officer Lee asked him if he had any in his possession. The man said no. Officer Lee asked him if he could check his pockets. The subject stood up, slowly looked around and then comically rolled off the side of the boat and into the water. While in the water, the man fumbled with his hands below the water's surface. Knowing what the subject was doing, Officer Lee untied his vessel and motored out away from the subject and his vessel. Seconds later a torn plastic bag floated to the surface with several homemade cigarettes containing a green leafy substance. This substance field tested positive as cannabis. The subject was subsequently arrested and charged with a felony tampering with evidence, two misdemeanor charges of interference with a law enforcement officer and possession of less than 20 grams of cannabis. He was transported to the county jail.

OSCEOLA COUNTY

While on water patrol on West Lake Toho, Officer Caitlyn Staskiewicz and Lieutenant Guy Carpenter II observed signs of impairment from an Osceola County man while they conducted a boat safety equipment inspection. After having the subject perform field sobriety tasks, Officer Staskiewicz arrested him for operating a vessel while under the influence and booked him into the county detention center.

While on water patrol on East Lake Toho, Officer Paul Mendez and Lieutenant Carpenter arrested an Osceola County man on a failure to appear warrant for possession of cannabis out of Holmes County. The officers conducted a wanted persons' check on the subject during the boat safety equipment inspection.

ST. JOHNS COUNTY

Officer Rich Wilcox received information that a suspect had been killing deer at night in farm fields near his residence. Lieutenant Ben Allen, Officers Wilcox and Eric Meade and an investigator went to the suspect's residence. In a field next to the residence, the officers noticed a hole that had been dug with a front end loader. They could see deer legs sticking out of the hole. Scattered about the yard were other deer parts and a gopher tortoise shell. An interview was conducted with the suspect and he admitted he had killed nine deer at night within the past

three weeks. The officers obtained consent to search the residence. Inside the garage were three live gopher tortoises. From a freezer the officers seized three deer heads with velvet antlers and three deer hides. The suspect was booked into the county jail and subsequently charged with four counts of possession of gopher tortoise and six counts of taking deer at night with a gun and light.

Officer Wilcox received an anonymous tip that a subject was in possession of gopher tortoises. He went to the residence and was met by a subject who had fresh blood on his pants. The suspect said the blood was from a rat he had killed and denied having any gopher tortoises. Officer Wilcox conducted an investigation and interviewed two people inside the house. It was determined they had hidden the gopher tortoises while Officer Wilcox was outside. One tortoise was found under a bathroom sink. Officer Jason Richmond arrived to assist and the officers found a fresh gopher tortoise head outside of the residence. They found another tortoise with a hole drilled in the back of the shell, tied to a string. The suspect stated it was their pet and they had named him George. Two suspects were charged with a total of five counts of possession of gopher tortoises.

SOUTHWEST REGION

CHARLOTTE COUNTY

Officers Jason Cooke and Adam Resnick were conducting boating safety inspections in Placida Harbor. During a vessel inspection, they noticed the operator showing signs of impairment. After administering field sobriety tasks, the individual was arrested for boating under the influence (BUI). After placing the individual in handcuffs and a personal flotation device (PFD), Officer Cooke attempted to place the individual on his vessel for transport, when the individual jumped out of the vessel and attempted to run. After a short chase, the officers caught the individual and transported him to Englewood Hospital after he sustained minor injuries. After being treated and released, the individual was booked into the county jail for resisting an officer without violence and BUI. The individual consented to a blood draw to determine the amount of alcohol in his system. The results are pending.

DESOTO COUNTY

FWC dispatch advised officers of a possible drowning in the area of Nocatee boat ramp, on the Peace River. Officer Clint Thompson responded and found several individuals looking for a male who had disappeared underwater. Officer Thompson entered the water and looked for the individual, but failed to locate him. The Desoto County Sheriff's Office Dive Team located the body a short time later near the location where the individual was last seen. Officers Jerry Carter and Jordan Hilliard assisted the dive team with the recovery.

LEE COUNTY

Officer Brian Cazalot was patrolling the Crew Wildlife Management Area when he received information reference illegal dumping of a vessel in the woods. Officer Cazalot approached the area and observed a vehicle, matching the suspect vehicle description, leaving the area with an empty vessel trailer. Officer Cazalot stopped the vehicle, which was occupied by two individuals, and questioned their activity then informed them of their Miranda Warnings. The

individuals admitted they had dumped the vessel and were issued notices to appear for the violation.

Officer Justin Koble was called to assist the Lee County Sheriff's Office with an individual taking live shells on Fort Myers Beach. The individual had been stopped previously and warned for the same offense. The subject was found to be in possession of 631 live sand dollars. The collection of live shells is prohibited in Lee County. The subject was cited for the offense and the sand dollars were returned to the water.

Officer Adam Resnick conducted panther patrol on Corkscrew Road and issued seven citations for speed violations with a maximum speed of 73 miles per hour in a marked 45 mile per hour zone.

SARASOTA COUNTY

Officer Jean Paul Hernandez was patrolling the New Pass area when he observed a person fishing from a dock. When Officer Hernandez conducted an inspection of the anglers catch, he found multiple size violations for red grouper, lane and mangrove snapper, sheepshead, and black sea bass. Officer Hernandez issued the individual citations for undersize red grouper and possession of undersize lane snapper and written warnings for possession of undersize mangrove snapper, sheepshead, and black sea bass.

Officer Jean Paul Hernandez observed an individual fishing from a dock in the New Pass area. As he approached, the individual threw a fish into the water. Officer Hernandez conducted a fisheries inspection and located two undersize gag grouper and two mangrove snappers. The angler was issued citations for possession of undersize gag grouper and possession of undersize mangrove snapper.

SOUTH REGION A

BROWARD COUNTY

Reserve Officer Charles Ehrismann heard a volley of gun shots in his neighborhood and went to investigate. Several Coral Springs police officers were setting up a perimeter because an armed robbery had just occurred and one of their officers was shot trying to stop the suspect vehicle. Reserve Officer Ehrismann, Lieutenant Dave Bingham and Officer Nathan Brock assisted. Local officers converged on the area to apprehend the three assailants. One subject was immediately caught. The second assailant took two hostages and barricaded himself in a house while the third temporarily remained at large. Eventually, the two remaining subjects were taken into custody. The officer is recovering from his wounds.

Officer Robert Kuester observed three subjects fishing from a canal spillway at Military Trail in Deerfield. After the subjects caught three undersize snook, they departed the area. Officer Kuester stopped and cited them after finding that the snook had been discarded under some bushes.

Officers received calls of a black bear roaming through a Westin neighborhood. Several officers and supervisors responded to assist with the search. The bear disappeared back into the woods.

Early Monday morning, Lieutenant Laubenberger and Officer Twist responded to a report of a stranded sea turtle at the Port Everglades FPL power plant. The officers arrived to find a loggerhead turtle caught in the intake area of one of the large pumps. FPL inspectors discovered it in the early morning hours. There was a fifteen foot drop to the water's edge within a small concrete enclosed compartment making retrieval of the stranded sea turtle a difficult task. The officers worked closely with FPL plant operators and utilized a mechanical rake, normally used to lift trash out of the holding area, to lift the sea turtle up to the working platform. Once rescued, the turtle appeared to be in excellent shape. Officer Twist transported the turtle to Officer Caske's patrol vessel where it was transported a couple of miles offshore and successfully released.

OKEECHOBEE COUNTY

Area investigators and investigator supervisors responded to Nubbin Slough Spillway at Lake Okeechobee after receiving a report of a man that was bitten by an alligator. Based on interviews and preliminary investigative findings, the victim was wading in 2 to 3 feet of water, throwing a cast net when the incident occurred. It was further reported that the victim's son aided in rescuing him from the grasp of the alligator. Trappers responded to remove the alligator that measured approximately ten feet long. They also removed another nearby alligator that measured approximately eleven feet. Uniformed officers and supervisors provided additional support.

PALM BEACH COUNTY

Monday night, Officers Fowler and Molnar were dispatched to a canal located on the north side of Lake Lytal Park. Personnel in the nearby air traffic control tower at Palm Beach International Airport called to report that three subjects were in a boat cast netting and "keeping everything." The officers arrived to see the subjects cast-netting from and paddling around in the boat. Officer Molnar conducted a fisheries inspection and discovered the subjects to be in possession of 13 panfish, 8 bass (one 25" in length), and 20 to 30 fish of various exotic species. The owner of the vessel was cited for the violation of harvesting gamefish by illegal method.

Investigator Laurie Luher requested state charges be dropped against a suspect who was arrested on May 8 for possession of 119 marine turtle eggs. The charges have been transferred to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service agents for federal prosecution.

ST. LUCIE COUNTY

Officers Dan Caron and Brandon Lasher patrolled the Belcher Canal spillway in response to increased fishing activity and repetitive snook violations. The officers observed a subject who fled the area in possession of an oversize snook. He was later caught and taken to jail for resisting arrest without violence and an unrelated warrant charge. Snook charges are pending.

Later that day, another subject was found in possession of an oversize snook and was issued a citation.

SOUTH REGION B

COLLIER COUNTY

During Memorial Day weekend, officers documented the following activity: 376 vessel inspections and 1,492 users checked, 17 uniform boating citations, 10 resource citations, 17 "other" citations, 50 boating safety warnings, 18 other warnings, 125 water patrol hours, 149 boating safety hours, 6 calls for service and 5 search and rescue missions. No boating accidents were reported.

Officer Doyle Cook issued a citation to a subject fishing at the Port of the Islands spillway after a fisheries inspection revealed two untagged tarpon.

Officer Marc Shea arrested a subject after an initial traffic stop for no trailer lights revealed the operator was driving with a suspended license. Federal agents responded after it was determined that the subject was an illegal alien. They will take actions to deport the subject.

Lieutenant Joshua Caraker issued citations to several subjects on County Road 951 after a fisheries inspection revealed that they were in possession of snook out of season. They also failed to keep fish in a whole condition. The subjects first told the officer they had no luck fishing but the officer's investigation revealed fish scales present on the vessel. The officer then found a gallon size bag of snook filets.

Later, while on patrol with Officer Barrett at 3:30 AM, the officers stopped a vessel and observed the passenger dumping a stringer overboard. The officers will direct file charges with the State Attorney's Office for violations that include possession of oversize snook, possession of snook out of season, interference with an officer, and failure to return food fish alive.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY

During Memorial Day weekend, officers documented the following activity: 323 vessel inspections and 974 users checked, 27 uniform boating citations, 2 resource citations, 4 other citations, 70 boating safety warnings, 16 other warnings, 91.5 water patrol hours, 170 boating safety hours, 11 calls for service, 4 boating accidents.

MONROE COUNTY

During Memorial Day weekend, officers documented the following activity: 1,326 vessel inspections and 3,592 users checked, 81 uniform boating citations, 3 boating under the influence arrests, 17 resource citations, 9 other citations, 177 boating safety warnings, 91 other warnings, 372 water patrol hours, 391 boating safety hours, 96 calls for service, and 3 boating accidents with injuries.

Numerous officers and FWC's Special Operations Group members participated in a security detail along with other agencies during the sinking of the General Hoyt S. Vandenberg 7 miles south of Key West, in 140 feet of water. The decommissioned military ship is the world's second largest military ship to become an artificial reef intended for divers and fishermen alike.

Officer Joshua Peters issued citations to a subject at Bow Channel Bridge for interference with an officer and possession of undersize yellowtail and mangrove snappers. The subject's friend warned him that the officer was approaching and the subject took the fish from his cooler and threw them into the water. The fish floated on the surface and the officer was able to retrieve and identify the undersize snapper. The officer also issued a citation for littering to a subject for

dumping a load of cinderblocks into Safe Harbor. The subject said he was going to use the cinderblocks to make a mooring for his vessel.

Officers Joshua Greenier and Steve Golden responded to a distress call overheard on a marine radio frequency about a missing diver near Sombrero Key Light. Three subjects onboard the dive boat told the officers they had last seen their friend thirty minutes ago, floating safely on the surface of the water. The officers searched in the direction of the Seven Mile Bridge and eventually located the diver three-quarters of a mile from his boat. He was exhausted but did not need medical attention. The officers delivered the victim to shore since sea conditions were very rough and they could not safely transfer him back to his boat.