

# BAL HARBOUR

- V I L L A G E -

OFFICE OF THE VILLAGE MANAGER

LETTER TO COUNCIL

NO. 038-2021

To: Mayor Gabriel Groisman and Members of the Village Council  
From: Jorge M. Gonzalez, Village Manager   
Date: March 19, 2021  
Subject: **New Appointments at the Bal Harbour Police Department**

The purpose of this Letter to Council (LTC) is to inform you of recent appointments made within the Bal Harbour Police Department (BHPD).

On March 13, 2021, Reserve Officer Lydia Armstrong joined the BHPD in a full-time capacity. Officer Armstrong brings with her over 30 years of law enforcement experience with the Miami-Dade Police Department (MDPD). During her tenure with MDPD, she served in the County's South District Neighborhood Resource Unit, where she focused much of her efforts on community policing, and was involved in the Police Athletic League and the DARE Program. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice from Oklahoma City University. Officer Armstrong is a dedicated public servant who takes great pride in community service and professionalism. This appointment is also significant in that Officer Armstrong will be the first female African American Police Officer in the history of BHPD.

With the appointment of Officer Armstrong, the BHPD was able to make an internal selection for the vacant Marine Beach Safety Officer position. Officer David Navas, who has been with the BHPD since 2016, has been appointed to the Beach Safety Officer position. Officer Navas brings with him training in water safety and operation of the marine patrol vessel. Additionally, Officer Navas has also been heavily involved in community outreach, and will serve to enhance safety on the beach, as well as act as an ambassador for the Village with visitors and residents visiting our beach. It is anticipated that Officer Navas will begin his new assignment in the last week of March.

Please join me in congratulating Officer Armstrong and Officer Navas in their new assignments. We wish them much success, as they represent the Village in their daily duties.

Should you have any questions or require additional information, please feel free to call Chief Raleigh Flowers or me directly.

JMG/RF/ME/DM