

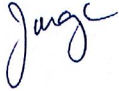
# BAL HARBOUR

- V I L L A G E -

OFFICE OF THE VILLAGE MANAGER

LETTER TO COUNCIL

NO. 072-2017

To: Mayor Gabriel Groisman and Members of the Village Council  
From: Jorge M. Gonzalez, Village Manager   
Date: April 13, 2017  
Subject: **Bal Harbour Police Department - April 13, 2017 Incident inside the Security District**

The purpose of this Letter to Council (LTC) is to share with you the details of an incident which occurred in the early morning hours of April 13, 2017 inside the security district.

Just before 1:00 a.m., the Town of Bay Harbor Islands (BHI) Police Department was alerted via their License Plate Reader (LPR) system of a stolen vehicle entering the islands along the Broad Causeway. A Bay Harbor Islands police officer observed the vehicle as it traveled east on 96th Street and began to follow it, while this officer advised all police agencies in the area. The vehicle was followed shortly into the Town of Surfside and then north on Collins Avenue into Bal Harbour Village. The stolen vehicle then entered the parking lot under the Haulover Bridge, came to an abrupt stop and two males and a female began to flee from the vehicle. The female was apprehended by the driveway of the Quarzo Hotel as the two male suspects ran north along the fence located to the rear of the Quarzo Hotel, scaling the fence and running west into the security district.

The Bal Harbour Police Department established a containment perimeter surrounding the entire security district with police officers from several other agencies responding to assist.

As the search for the suspects was conducted, one male suspect was discovered in front of 280 Bal Bay Drive and apprehended without further incident. The remaining male suspect was located hiding in the hedges on the north side of 145 Biscay Drive a short time later and also apprehended without further incident.

Further investigation revealed that the vehicle had been stolen as a result of an armed carjacking that occurred in the City of Miami on April 9, 2017. The City of Miami Police detectives responded to the scene in Bal Harbour Village and their investigation continues.

Once the suspects were in custody, the canine teams returned to the area and conducted a search for evidence to include any possible firearms. A subsequent evidence search was conducted by patrol officers at daybreak and no firearms were located nor any other items of evidentiary value.

The three suspects were taken into custody by the Town of Bay Harbor Islands and the City of Miami Police Departments.

It should be noted that the successful outcome of this incident was a result of proactive policing and an LPR system which detected the presence of this vehicle as it entered the area. The suspects fled through various municipal jurisdictions before fleeing into the security district in an attempt to avoid apprehension.

Nonetheless, since the auto thefts that occurred in the Village on April 3, 2017, the Bal Harbour Police Department has altered the patrol tactics for police officers inside the security district. The tactics involve a greater concentration along Park Drive as well as enhanced staffing during specific times. The Police Department has also begun a re-assessment of all security measures within the district and shall make their recommendations to me once completed.

We have outreached to communicate with several residents in the security district to alert them of our efforts and advise them of what occurred today. In addition, we shall be scheduling a meeting with representatives from Kent Security to ensure that their staff remain alert and vigilant and work closely with the Police Department when issues arise.

If you have any questions or need an additional information, please feel free to let me or Acting Chief De La Rosa know.

JMG/MdIR