

# MIAMI POLICE DEPARTMENT



Public Information Office  
400 N.W. 2 Ave., Room 220, Miami, Florida 33128  
(305) 603-6420



Subject: **VANDALISM TO STATUES - SUSPECTS ARRESTED**

Today, Wednesday, June 10, 2020 there was a group of protesters in the area of Biscayne Blvd. and 4<sup>th</sup> Street. Officers were monitoring the protest from our Real Time Crime Center (RTCC). We observed several suspects spray painting two statues outside of Bayside Market. One was of Christopher Columbus, and the other, of Juan Ponce De Leon. A hammer and sickle, among other things, was spray painted on the statues.

Miami police officers identified the suspects via surveillance cameras, and after giving an exact description of the suspects, our ground officers moved in and arrested the suspects who committed the vandalism. While initiating the arrests, several protesters assaulted our officers and damaged a police vehicle. We were able to arrest a total of 7 of the violent protestors. The peaceful protestors were not arrested.

In the City of Miami, we support peaceful protests but there will be zero tolerance for those who hide behind the peaceful protestors to incite riots, damage property, and hurt members of the public or our officers.

**Surveillance video is available via WeTransfer:**

<https://we.tl/t-3sKBBqhw0d>

Anyone with information on other suspects who vandalized the statues or police vehicle is urged to contact the Miami Police Department at (305) 579-6111. Those with information who wish to remain anonymous may contact Miami-Dade Crime Stoppers at (305) 471- TIPS (8477), visit [www.crimestoppersmiami.com](http://www.crimestoppersmiami.com) and select "Give a Tip" or Send a text message to 274637. Enter CSMD followed by the tip information and press send.

Prepared by: **Ofc. Michael Vega**

Reviewed by: **Asst. Chief A. Aguilar Jr.**

Case: **N/A**

Transmittal Date: **June 10, 2020**

Jorge R. Colina, Chief of Police

**NEWS RELEASE**