



Sunny Isles Beach Police Department

➤ **NUMBER OF ON-WATER OFFICERS IN THIS AREA**

- I patrol the area of Miami-Dade County from the Bakers Haulover Inlet north to the Dade/Broward County line. This area is unique in that a number of Agencies have jurisdiction over these waters. Those Agencies are as follows:
 1. Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
 2. Miami-Dade County Police Department
 3. Sunny Isles Beach Police Department
 4. Aventura Police Department
 5. Golden Beach Police Department
 6. North Miami Beach Police Department
 7. North Miami Police Department
 8. Bal-Harbour Police Department
 9. Indian Creek Public Safety Department

At any time of day or day of the week, any or all of the above agencies will have a vessel and officers working.

➤ **SCOPE OF YOUR ENFORCEMENT**

- Scope of my enforcement mission:
 1. Provide routine patrol of my cities waterways
 2. Enforcement of the Florida safe boating laws
 3. Enforcement of Manatee Regulatory reduced speed zones
 4. Promote safe boating through public education
 5. Assist disabled or distressed vessels
 6. Remove navigational hazards
 7. Enforcement of fisheries violations
 8. Enforcement of Exclusive Swim Zone areas
 9. Boating accident investigation
 10. Respond to vessel fires
 11. Investigation and removal of derelict vessels
 12. Assist neighboring agencies with calls for service

➤ **AMOUNT OF HOURS PER MONTH, FOR THE LAST 12 MONTHS OF ON-WATER ENFORCEMENT GENERALLY AND MANATEE-RELATED ENFORCEMENT OR RESCUE, ETC.**

I am a full-time Marine Patrol Officer assigned to work a four-day work week: Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday. I work 10 hours per day and approximately 46 weeks a year. 46 weeks time 4 days a week equals 184 days a year, and 184 days times 10 hours equals 1840 hours a year. Obviously, that is just a rough estimate, but consideration

should be given for extra days or extended hours on the waters during the holidays such as Labor Day, Memorial Day, Columbus Day, and the Fourth of July.

➤ **AMOUNT OF ENFORCEMENT ACTION OR EDUCATION CONTACT (UBC, WARNING, ETC.)**

1. My city is unique in that all my waters are Regulated Idle Speed, year round, except for Dumfoundling Bay which is a 30 MPH Speed Zone for 6 ½ months and an Idle Speed Zone for 5 ½ months, (November 15th through April 30th)
2. Bearing that in mind, my heavy enforcement time is when the Slow Speed Manatee Zone is in effect in Dumfoundling Bay.
3. On a yearly basis, I average about 300 written warnings, another 200 or so verbal warnings and at least 100 to 150 Florida Uniform Boating Citations per season.
4. All boating stops are used to educate the public to the manatee zones and the all the rules and regulations relating to the manatee. Every boater is given and explained a copy of the Dade County Boating Safety and Manatee Protection Zones, published by the Florida Inland Navigational District, showing all the Slow Speed Manatee Zones.
5. All manatee sightings are reported directly to Mr. Forrest Shaw at DERM, via email, on their “Manatee Sighting Form.” The form includes the date, time, locations, GPS coordinates, brief description, and sometimes digital pictures.

➤ **COORDINATION WITH OTHER AGENCIES (eg. INTERAGENCY MEETINGS OR TASK FORCES, SPECIAL EVENTS, INTERAGENCY AGREEMENTS, ETC.); WHAT AGENCIES CAN ENFORCE YOUR RULES?**

1. I attend the Monthly Marine Advisory Support Team, (M.A.S.T.) meetings as often as possible. The meetings are hosted by the Miami-Dade County Police Department and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. Representatives from all the local Dade County Police Department’s Marine Patrol Units are in attendance. Some of the agencies are Miami Beach Police, City of Miami Police, Coral Gables Police Department, FWC, Miami-Dade County Police, Golden Beach Police, Aventura Police, North Miami Police, Indian Creek Public Safety Department, and Parks Police, to name just a few.
2. I attend the South East Regional Domestic Security Task Force, (S.E.R.D.T.F.), meetings which are scheduled monthly. In attendance to these meetings are all the agencies listed above plus representatives from the United States Coast Guard, Homeland Security and all the local, county and municipal agencies in Broward and Palm Beach Counties.
3. I attend the Manatee Awareness Group meeting as often as possible, which are coordinated by The Florida Department of Environmental Protection.
4. Currently in my city, the United States Coast Guard, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, the Miami-Dade County Police Department, the Indian Creek Public Safety Department and the Aventura Police Department have concurrent jurisdictional powers to enforce all the boating laws of Florida. I however, only have jurisdictional powers in Aventura, Indian Creek and of course my city.

5. During special events, temporary mutual aid agreements are initiated to expand my enforcement and arrest powers. Most of the time the agreements are time stamped and expire after a short period of time.

➤ **IS THERE ANY TARGETED ENFORCEMENT OF MANATEE ZONES?**

1. From November 15 to April 30 each year the area around Dumfoundling Bay changes from a 30 MPH speed zone to a Slow Speed Manatee Zone, for the Manatee's mating season. That area is very close to the City of Aventura, the City of Golden Beach and my city of Sunny Isles Beach. Those three cities routinely work that area as a unit, especially during the weekends when boating traffic is very heavy. Periodically, we change our hours to incorporate the later hours of the day and nighttime.
2. During the big boating holidays, such as Labor Day, Memorial Day, Fourth of July, Columbus Day and so on, we routinely have additional boats and Officers working. These dates often turn out to be heavy boating days.

➤ **WHAT WOULD BE THE COST (HOURLY, DAILY, ETC.) FOR ADDITIONAL POSITIONS OR OVERTIME FOR TARGETED ENFORCEMENT.?**

1. A breakdown of our costs for additional manpower would be as follows:

✓ Hourly Rate:	\$ 80.81
✓ Daily Rate for 8 hours:	\$646.50
✓ Vessel Costs, fuel, maintenance etc.	\$150.00
✓ Total one day costs:	\$796.50

The hourly and daily rate includes our Workers Compensation costs, the FICA taxes and our Florida State Retirement costs.

• **Recommendations:**

- A. The importance of proper signage and replacement of damaged signage can not be over stated. When Officers respond to court, the judicial system will not tolerate missing or improperly posted signage.
- B. In my particular city, I have to pass through 6 other jurisdictions to reach the Bakers Haulover Inlet and the Atlantic Ocean. I do not have the authority to enforce the manatee violations in those jurisdictions. How do we overcome that? One way, is to have a concurrent marine patrol agreement with all those individual agencies. That would require the authorization of every Chief of Police, every City Manager, every Mayor and all the City Commissioners and Attorneys. A second approach would be to make all the city officers sworn Miami-Dade County Police Officers with authority to enforce anywhere in Miami-Dade County. And a third scenario would be giving us the same authorization as FWC and our jurisdictions would be all the waters of the state.