

Life Saving Award
Officer Thomas Bickham
Officer Marco Lopez
Officer Michael Zellar

On July 27, 2011, the Plantation Police Department Communications Center received a call reference a woman in a vehicle that had gone into a canal in the 6500 block of West Sunrise Blvd. Officers Bickham, Zellar and Lopez arrived on the scene and saw an elderly female in the vehicle in the canal. The officers removed their duty belts and proceeded to rescue the woman.

Officer Lopez went into the canal to the vehicle and removed the elderly woman from the vehicle. Officer Bickham saw the embankment of the canal was steep so he lay down, and as Officer Zellar and several unidentified civilians secured his legs, assisted Officer Lopez and the elderly woman up the embankment and out of the canal.

It was later determined that the woman after purchasing gas at a gas station had accelerated her car rapidly in reverse out of the gas station and into the canal.

All three officers were recognized with the Lifesaving Award for their efforts in rescuing the elderly woman from the canal.