

CITY OF
FORT LAUDERDALE

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July 9, 2002

Captain John Roberts
Florida Highway Patrol
14190 State Road 84
Davie, FL 33325

Dear Captain Roberts:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the assistance provided by your agency on Saturday, June 29, 2002. At approximately 3:48 p.m., Fort Lauderdale Police Officers responded to the State Road 84 overpass of I-95. A passing motorist noticed a person positioned over the guardrail, apparently contemplating suicide. When officers arrived, they made contact with a female on the south side of State Road 84, sitting on a narrow street light pole ledge approximately 90 feet above the roadway. Officers began talking with her, while crisis negotiators were called to the scene.

Florida Highway Patrol responded and shut down the entrance ramps from eastbound and westbound I-595 onto northbound I-95. These were the lanes directly under the subject. They also responded to State Road 84 to assist with traffic, as we stopped eastbound traffic and southbound I-95 traffic exiting onto State Road 84. Florida Highway Patrol Sergeant Crawley was one of the first troopers to arrive on the scene. He assisted with the negotiations, remaining several feet from the female victim the entire time. Negotiations continued until just after midnight, when the subject decided to come back over the rail to safety. At that time, it was determined that she was a very troubled 17-year-old girl and was transported to the hospital for further evaluation.

During this entire crisis, Florida Highway Patrol's assistance was an invaluable support to our Agency. Please convey our special thanks to Lieutenant Santangelo, Trooper Olaciregul, Trooper Osbourne, and Corporal Hernandez, and to the Midnight Lieutenant who relieved Lieutenant Santangelo and all the other Florida Highway Patrol Personnel for their diligence and distinct commitment to the community. Ferrell

Sincerely,

Bruce G. Roberts
Chief of Police

BGR:SLA:mjm

POLICE DEPARTMENT

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