

From: Etienne, Michael [mailto:metienne@northmiamifl.gov]
Sent: Friday, April 10, 2015 6:32 AM
To: Burgess, Leonard; Ghany, Aleem
Cc: Bage, Robert; Joseph, Smith; Bien-Aime, Philippe; Scott Galvin; Keys, Carol; Steril, Marie
Subject: Compliments to Major Robert Bage

Chief Burgess,

Thank you so much for sending Major Robert Bage to the clerk's office on April 7, 2015 to help defuse the situation that transpired at said office. Please read below an excerpt of a witness' interpretation of what transpired:

"Mr. Etienne, returned said, "get them out of my office." Michael Etienne clearly was in the wrong because he made the atmosphere appear hostile, stating, "I don't want my Deputy being harassed." The Assistant to the Chief of Police showed up with two other officers, looked at Janet's paperwork and left because Janet had every right to have her paperwork filed." (Note-

The lady making this statement is no friend of mine and depicts an inaccurate description of what transpired online; however, the excerpt above from her comment online is fairly accurate- except the part that I was in the wrong of course.)

Both Stephanie and I asked the initial officers to remove the people out of the internal working area of the clerk's office because they were disrupting the work flow of the staff but our request fell on deaf ears. In fact, at one point the officers walked out of the clerk's office while those people were still camping out in front of Stephanie's office. I was almost forced to physically remove those people from the office myself and that is when Major Bage walked in and literally saved the day. Bage told me to calm down and that he would be handling the situation, and so I began to walk away and into my office. Bage cordially walked up to the people and began to speak to them. I do not know what Bage was telling them but his demeanor was calm, collective, respectful, and friendly. 2 mins later, the people walked out of the clerk's office without incident.

Bage's professionalism and the manner in which he successfully defused a situation like this emulate the trait of a remarkable police force. We need more officers like him on the force and certainly in leadership. As mentioned before, when officers do wrong, everyone knows about it (and should know), that is why we must always praise and acknowledge officers when they do right. Hail Major Bage!!!

Michael A. Etienne
Sent from my iPad