## MIAMI POLICE DEPARTMENT



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Subject:

NEWS RELEASE

## MIAMI TO KEY WEST BIKE RIDE IN HONOR OF VETERANS

Veterans Day is an observance in the United States that is meant to honor all veterans of the uniformed services who served or are still serving during times of peace as well as war.

Beginning on November 9, 2022., at 11:30 p.m., Officer Joseph McCrink, along with 12 other City of Miami Police Officers will be preparing for their 165-mile bicycle ride departure from 10411 S.W. 122 Avenue to Key West in an effort to raise funds and awareness for the non-profit "Hope For The Warriors". Started by military families. Hope For The Warriors supports service members, veterans and their families with programs focused on transition, health and wellness, peer engagement, and connections to community resources.

"We are honored that Officer McCrink and other Bicycle Response Team members are supporting Hope For The Warriors and those we serve with this ride," said Robin Kelleher, co-founder and president of the nonprofit organization. "Those officers know what it's like to serve the same mission together each day, like those serving in our military. Their combined support is truly impacting the well-being of the many veterans, service members and families who have bravely served and sacrificed for our country."

In previous years, Officer McCrink and several other Miami Police officers completed a host of bicycle rides dedicated to benefit several non-profit organizations to include, Live Like Bella® Childhood Cancer Foundation. In 2013, 2015, and 2019 they rode to Key West, and in 2014, 2016, 2017, and 2018 they rode to Walt Disney World. May of 2021, participants completed a 111-mile bicycle ride to Naples Beach for Peace Officer Memorial Month in honor of fallen Officer Aubrey Johnson and funds raised were donated to the Police Officers Assistance Trust.

This marks the 7<sup>th</sup> year in a row that Officer McCrink coordinates an event geared toward raising funds for a non-profit organization with a positive cause; and he passionately does so as his way of giving back to the community he swore to protect and serve.

Please visit *hopeforthewarriors.org* to support him on his journey and goal of raising \$10,000.

Founded in 2006, Hope For The Warriors is a national nonprofit dedicated to restoring a sense of self, family and hope for post-9/11 veterans, service members and military families. Since its inception, Hope For The Warriors has served over 40,000 through a variety of support programs focused on health and wellness, sports and recreation and transition. One of the nonprofit's first programs, Military Spouse and Caregiver Scholarships, has awarded 192 scholarships to caregivers and families of the fallen. For more information, visit hopeforthewarriors.org, Facebook, Twitter or Instagram.

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**Manuel Morales, Chief of Police**