Date: May 18, 2016

To: Robert Baldwin

Dania Beach City Manager

From: Captain Daniel Marks

Broward Sheriff's Office Dania Beach

Subject: Commercial Motor Vehicle Enforcement

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Over the past several months the Dania Beach District has received numerous complaints in reference to commercial motor vehicles and their activities. These complaints vary from quality of life issues to safety and criminal issues. With the growth and large amounts of construction taking place in our city, it would be beneficial to develop a mechanism to handle these types of issues.

The Broward Sheriff’s Office Dania Beach District currently has a commercial motor vehicle enforcement certified deputy. I suggest utilizing him, on a 6 month part time trial basis to address anything related to commercial motor vehicle enforcement. By utilizing our current deputy there would be no extra cost to the city. The Sheriff has just provided the Dania Beach District with a 2016 Dodge Ram pickup truck which is currently assigned to the certified commercial vehicle enforcement deputy. This means the city will not have to purchase an additional specialty vehicle. As for equipment, there will be occasions where small purchases must be made. I have acquired a set of scales at no cost to the city which is the bulk of the equipment needed.

I feel that this is a great opportunity to provide a higher level of safety to the residents of Dania Beach. It is also a great opportunity to generate additional law enforcement funds for our city. Below is an outline that shows all the benefits of this trial program:

Safety

**Equipment / Vehicle**

**Driver**

Is vehicle in compliance, inspected, all parts are there, are the parts working correctly, what needs to be repaired?

Does the driver possess a valid D/L, Correct class for vehicle and load, medical card, impaired, skills necessary for safe operation, knowledgeable w/ vehicle and equipment on and in it.

Monetary

**Overweight Fines**

GVW, Tax Class, Declared/ Registered weight,

.05 cents per pound over

Overweight vehicles contribute to road damage and have a higher probability of being involved in a serious crash. Mainly due to the inability of the driver to effectively control the vehicle and the stress that the added weight places upon the vehicle itself promote failure of vital components.

Safety violation fines are collected as would regular traffic fines and disbursed back to the city and county where the violation occurred.

Interdiction

**Drug and Weapons Trafficking**

Commercial Vehicles are used to transport a variety of goods that are illegal and highly dangerous to the public. There are way too many areas for drugs, money and weapons to be hidden in a commercial vehicle. The traffickers know that MOST law enforcement officers do not have the time to take that closer look, nor would they know what they were looking at. CMV’s are big and not the norm for the road officer to come into contact with on a daily basis. The trafficker / driver will smooth talk his way in and around in order to distract and confuse the officer, which often works and allows for the driver to continue on undetected.

Homeland Security / Environmental

**Weapon of Choice**

What was used to bomb the Oklahoma Federal Building and the 1st attack on the World Trade Center? (Answer: Commercial Motor Vehicles)

What runs up and down the interstate systems every day, passing you and your family with potentially volatile and hazardous materials? (CMV’s)

What has the ability to distribute enough explosive material in 1 package that is virtually undetected, and free to roam throughout with little or no question by anyone? (CMV’s)

What would 9000 gallons of gasoline (or other explosive / flammable substance), acid, or ammonia do to your neighborhood, your water supply, or your breathing air. If allowed to escape or detonated on purpose.

Yes, It can happen accidentally also and most times that is the case.

BUT WHAT IF -- 9/11/01 happens again???

*Commercial Vehicle Enforcement isn’t just about giving tickets to trucks; it’s about making your city and roadways a safer place for you and your family.*

General interaction and visibility within the Commercial Vehicle areas in the city places the would be violator on notice that CMV enforcement takes place here, and that there is a heightened probability he / she will be stopped, inspected and questioned at any time.