

Introducing the NMBPD K-9 UNIT

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City of North Miami Beach Police Department

**Media Relations Office
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

W. Hernandez – Chief of Police July 13, 2016

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Protect the Paws Award

Narrative:

What's cuter than a K-9 getting fitted for a bullet proof vest? The North Miami Beach Police Department's K9 Unit (NMBPD K-9) is very excited to be able to have their partners wearing bullet proof vests. In today's world, officers across the country are experiencing an increase in violence against officers. Police K-9s are an extension of our families and we must protect them like we would any other officer on the street.

The NMBPD K-9 Unit has received a donation of five new ballistic vests thanks to "Protect the Paws... a K-9 Cause", a nonprofit organization, which is composed of four women who want to give back to the community by raising funds to donate bullet proof vests to South Florida police K-9s. Their dedicated vested interest fund has donated over 1,600 bullet proof K-9 vests throughout the country.

Protect the Paws was founded in 2011 after reading an article about a young child who, in lieu of birthday presents, asked family and friends to donate towards a bullet proof vest for a police K-9. The women of "Protect the Paws", made their mission to keep police K-9s protected, just as their handlers are.

A plaque will be presented to the above organization to show our appreciation for all of their efforts in keeping police officers and their K-9 partners safe. The presentation will be held at the North Miami Beach Police Department on July 19, 2016, at 1:30 p.m.

Please join us and be a part of this awesome event as we accept these bullet proof vests.

Please contact Sergeant Jason Ochoa @ 305-494-5162 if you would like to attend.

Introducing the NMBPD K-9 UNIT


