

Manuel (Nel) Garcia

Police Sergeant

Resource Management and Planning: Police Department

Extraordinary Service to the Community

Sergeant Nel Garcia exemplifies the UC principles of community on a regular and proactive basis. His assistance to the residents of ARCH communities over the past year has been transformative.

During a period where we were having break-ins at Coast I reached out to Nel. He willingly agreed to meet with me and the residents after his normal work time. He compiled data and presented it in an informative manner and then outlined the workings and benefits of a Neighborhood Watch Program. This personal attention went a long way in making residents feel they were being heard and further that UCPD was doing something about their concerns.

Nel also suggested and implemented an RSO drive by on a regular basis and the presence of a UCPD vehicle. In addition, Nel encouraged residents to utilize Triton Rides to promote safety and more police presence at Coast apartments.

As a result break-ins at Coast have been significantly reduced, residents are better informed and feel safer and overall there is a better sense of community.

Building Relationships/Partnerships

Nel also accepted an invitation to a recent event called Snow Day which attracted about 730 residents. He and two other officers mingled with the residents, assisted with and participated in a sledding event all in the spirit of collaboration and support of residents. This type of involvement and attitude goes a long way in providing a "stress-less" environment for our residents which is not only a goal of HDH but also of the Graduate Division.

Prior to this event, Nel had been integral in the success of large scale ARCH events including the Block Party in May and the Welcome Back Rooftop party in September for the past two years. These events draw over 1,000 graduate and professional students and their families, require a great deal of coordination and include a beer garden sponsored by the GSA.

Nel is one of those rare employees that always makes the extra effort to help our residents. His approach to work is more like a way of living than just doing a job.