

**INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM**  
**District 8 (Village of Wellington) – PATROL OPERATIONS**

**TO:** Captain Nichole Addazio (Via Chain of Command)    **DATE:** April 13, 2026

**FROM:** Sergeant Bryan Lembo #25004

**SUBJECT:** Village of Wellington TOP COP 2026 (Deputy Lawrence Germuska #44720)

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It is my honor to nominate Deputy Sheriff Lawrence Germuska for the Village of Wellington Top Cop Award in recognition of his consistent proactive enforcement, strong investigative instincts, and demonstrated commitment to public safety.

Despite being relatively new to the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office and the law enforcement profession, Deputy Germuska has quickly distinguished himself through performance that exceeds expectations for a deputy at his level of experience. His work reflects not only productivity, but sound judgment, officer safety awareness, and the ability to identify and act on criminal behavior.

Prior to his law enforcement career, Deputy Germuska honorably served for 12 years in the United States Marine Corps. He brings the leadership, discipline, and operational mindset gained through his military service to his role at PBSO. Within his squad, he serves as an informal leader, consistently setting the example through professionalism, composure, and a respectful approach to both the public and his peers.

During May 2025, Deputy Germuska conducted over 40 proactive traffic stops, many of which developed into more in-depth investigations. His enforcement efforts resulted in four arrests, including one felony, and led to the seizure of a firearm, approximately 54 grams of marijuana, and multiple THC vape cartridges. Throughout this period, he maintained full responsibility for calls for service while continuing to actively engage in proactive policing.

This pattern of initiative and awareness continued into 2026. On March 10, 2026, while conducting nighttime traffic enforcement, Deputy Germuska observed a vehicle operating without headlights or taillights and initiated a traffic stop. Upon contact, he identified marijuana in plain view, establishing probable cause for a search. During that search, he located a concealed firearm within reach of the driver. Further investigation revealed the subject to be a convicted felon with a violent criminal history, including armed carjacking. Deputy Germuska safely took the subject into custody and recovered the firearm and loaded magazines, preventing a dangerous individual from continuing to unlawfully possess a weapon.

Deputy Germuska's performance is defined not just by activity, but also by impact. He consistently demonstrates the ability to turn routine encounters into meaningful enforcement actions that directly enhance community safety. His proactive mindset, attention to detail, and willingness to engage in self-initiated activity set him apart from his peers.

Further underscoring his capabilities and professionalism, Deputy Germuska was recently selected to serve on the PBSO SWAT Team—an achievement that reflects both his tactical proficiency and the confidence the agency has in his abilities.

His leadership, work ethic, and commitment to the mission of the Sheriff's Office make him a valuable asset to the Village of Wellington and a strong representative of the profession.

For these reasons, I strongly recommend Deputy Sheriff Lawrence Germuska for the Village of Wellington Top Cop Award.