

MIAMI POLICE DEPARTMENT



Public Information Office
400 N.W. 2 Ave., Room 220, Miami, Florida 33128
(305) 603-6420



Subject: **CHILD NEARLY DROWNS IN BACKYARD**
SWIMMING POOL

UPDATE

As the police chief of Miami, I am filled with anger, heartbreak, and disappointment as we witness a child clinging to life and a family of tourists desperately holding on to hope. This tragic situation has arisen because those who valued profit over human life chose to disregard the simple laws designed to keep people safe. The operators of what amounts to an illegal short-term rental business have created conditions that have caused immense suffering. The Miami Police Department is using every tool at its disposal to hold the operators of Airbnb accountable for their reckless and callous actions. Our thoughts are with the child fighting for their life and the family enduring this nightmare. We will not rest until justice is served for them and the community.

Manuel A. Morales, Chief of Police

Today, January 5, 2024, City of Miami Police Officers responded in emergency mode shortly before 12:00 noon to a home located at 6246 North Miami Avenue after receiving a frantic call about a child drowning in a swimming pool in the backyard.

City of Miami Police Officers arrived on scene and immediately began lifesaving efforts by administering CPR on a 1-year-old boy. Additional responding units began facilitating a clear route by shutting down traffic to allow Miami Fire Rescue to conduct the urgent transportation to Jackson Memorial Hospital's Pediatric Center.

As the investigation into this devastating incident continues, we're kindly asking the community to keep the 1-year-old child and his family in prayer as he remains in critical condition at the hospital.

The Miami Police Victims Advocate Unit was requested to offer essential services and compassionate support to the family during this difficult time.

Detectives continue to actively investigate the circumstances surrounding what led up to this incident.

Anyone with information is urged to contact the Miami Police Department's Special Victims Unit at (305) 603-6300. Those with information that wish to remain anonymous can contact Miami-Dade Crime Stoppers at (305) 471- TIPS (4877), visit www.crimestoppersmiami.com and select "Give a Tip" or Send a text message to 274637. Enter CSMD followed by the tip information and press send.

Prepared by: **Ofc. K. Delva**

Reviewed by: **Capt. F. Cruz / Sgt. S. Green / Asst. Chief R. Perez**

Case: **240105-00001098**

Transmittal Date: **January 5, 2024**

Manuel A. Morales, Chief of Police

NEWS RELEASE