



# Pembroke Pines Police Department



9500 Pines Boulevard · Pembroke Pines · Florida 33024

Administrative Phone – 954-436-3200

24 Hour Dispatch – 954-431-2200

PIO On-Call Number – 954-252-5029

## MEDIA RELEASE

**ASSIGNED PIO:** Amanda Conwell

**PPPD CASE NUMBER:** 2017-039571

**DATE:** June 29, 2017 **TIME:** Click here to enter text. **PM**

**PLACE OF OCCURRENCE:** East PD Headquarters, 9500 Pines Boulevard

**CHARGE/INCIDENT:** Lost Dog Reunited with Family After 5 months & 200 Miles of Distance

**SUSPECT(S) - NAME, AGE, DOB, RACE, SEX, ADDRESS:**

- 1)
- 2)

**VICTIM(S) - NAME, AGE, DOB, RACE, SEX, ADDRESS:**

- 1)
- 2)

### **INCIDENT SUMMARY:**

In January of this year, 6-year old pomeranian Sassy went missing from her family's home in Bradenton, Florida. Despite the family's efforts, they could find no trace of their dog. After a period of 5-months and a distance of over 200 miles, Sassy was found by Pembroke Pines Police Officer William Higuita as he was on a service call. Despite being lost, Sassy was in good health and was transported by Officer Higuita to our East PD Headquarters to be cared for by our PPPD Animal Assistance Program (AAP).

Using our department's microchip reader, we were able to track down the identity of Sassy's owner and contact them in regards to their long-lost pet. After so much time and distance, Sassy was finally reunited with her loving family on June 17, 2017.

We'd like to take this opportunity to stress the importance of tagging and microchipping your pets. It was due to the fact that Sassy had an implanted microchip with updated owner information that we were able to get in contact with her family and make this reunion possible. Our Animal Assistance Program regularly takes in local lost dogs that often go unclaimed due to a lack of owner identification. Please prevent this from happening to you and your pets by getting your cat or dog microchipped by a

Anyone with information regarding this incident is urged to contact the Pembroke Pines Police Department at 954-431-2200, email to [tips@ppines.com](mailto:tips@ppines.com), or call Crimestoppers at 954-493-TIPS.



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local veterinarian, Humane Society, or animal hospital; a few moments of your time can save your family a lifetime of heartache.

The Pembroke Pines Police Department strongly encourages all police departments and sheriff's offices to implement their own Animal Assistance Program to better serve the members of their community. By having a program of this nature, law enforcement agencies are able to prevent many lost pets from being sent to Animal Control where they can potentially face euthanasia if left unclaimed within a certain time period. Over 1,300 lost pets have been reunited by our Animal Assistance Program within the last five years, and countless others have been re-homed via our adoption process. By highlighting the success of our program, we hope to inspire and encourage other agencies to follow suit.

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