



CREATING POSITIVE CHANGE

MEETING MINUTES
SOUTHWEST AREA COMMUNITY POLICING COUNCIL
Wednesday, February 14, 2018
6:00 PM
Patrick Baca Library
8081 Central NW
ALBUQUERQUE, NM

In Attendance:

- Michael Zocholl, Chair-
- Don Burns – Vice Chair-
- Jan LaPitz – Voting Member-
- Larry LaPitz - Voting Member-
- John Russo - Voting Member-

- Chris Sylvan, CPC Manager
- Yvette Marentes, CPC Admin

Approximately 3 members from the community were present at the meeting.

- Call to order

Meeting was called to order by Michael Zocholl, Chair at 6:05pm

- Roll call & Introductions

The attendees at the meeting introduced themselves to the group.

- Approval of agenda

Agenda item is to be added to discuss the Citizens Policing Academy for CPC members. A motion was made to approve the agenda with the CPA announcement, motion was seconded and agenda was approved with the amendment.

- Approval of minutes

Motion was made to approve the minutes with corrections to the abbreviations that were made to the minutes, motion was seconded and the minutes were approved.

- Guest Speaker **

Detective Deirdre Candelaria from organized crime unit was introduced. The detective introduced herself to the group and gave a history of her background. The organized crime unit has 5 detectives and partners with the community, financial institutions (scams, white collar crime, identity theft, fraud embezzlement, etc,) retailers (big box stores such as Lowes, big lots, uptown, etc,) metal and recycling and hospitality. They work with the community to develop relationships and partnerships. The relationships have been ongoing for about 10 years. She discussed different cases that they deal with on a regular basis such as people that use scammers on ATM's to steal personal information. They have a great relationship with the FBI, Secret Service, Postal Department, Federal Marshalls and other agencies.

Keep track of your bank accounts so that you know what is going in and out and you can contact your bank as soon as you see fraudulent activity, the next step is to contact credit reporting agencies to let them know what happened as well as file a police report and get a case number so that you can give the number to your bank. To report, you may call 242-cops, or the telephone reporting line at 768-2030 (if you do not have information on a suspect,) if it is an emergency call 911; go to [FTC.gov](https://www.ftc.gov) to report identity theft.

Detective Candelaria had pamphlets with information regarding identity theft, telephone scams, dating scams that she passed out to the group as well. It is important that if anybody calls you and asks for personal information, to be strict with your information and to not give out any personal information, these people are very good at what they do, their number one job is to scam people out of their money. If you go to a gas station or ATM be sure to make sure that the seal is not broken or appears to be tampered with on the station (it is a sticker that shows that it was inspected,) if it is do not use the pump station or ATM and report it to the manager.

It is imperative that the unit works efficiently and effectively to identify the trends that are happening within the crimes and then pick away and track the criminals and how they are working. Once identified, they work on the leads and start to identify where the major players of the crime are coming from. Their goal is to try and get everything under control as quickly as they can. Anytime you do see something that may appear to be a scam, the best thing to do is to report it. Generally around tax time there is an increase in these type of activities.

Dating site fraud, what usually happens is that older individuals will meet someone on a dating application, they start communicating and after the fraudster gains their trust they “emotionally” scam the person out of money. After they scam, they take their profile down and there is no way to track this person, usually they are out of the country.

The postal inspectors only have 3 people in the state of New Mexico that are working, however they are looking to hopefully get 2 more inspectors. Mail theft is rapid nationwide, make sure to check your mail daily and do not leave it overnight. Cluster boxes, the fraudsters are taking the keys and making copies on their own, prying them open or actually cutting the boxes at the bottom. The postal service are looking at how they can create better cluster boxes to put out in the communities. A lot of people are starting to use camera systems at their home, these have been very helpful.

Pawn stores, the city is trying to create a more relevant pawn ordinance. They are seeing repeat offenders that go into a business such as Lowes, they steal a tool from the store and then take it to the pawn shop and pawn the tool. They are hoping that the ordinance will pass to help put a stop the theft. The goal is not to make businesses difficult to pawn shop owners but to come up with a compromise to help retailers or citizens with their stolen property.

<https://www.nomorobo.com/>

Can block scammer types of calls, you can also get a phone number and get the number and block the number. You can call the attorney general’s office and report the numbers that are calling as they keep a running list.

- Crime Update Albuquerque Police Department *

There was no representation from APD for the crime update.

- Old Business

There was no old business to address.

- New Business
 - Meeting Location (Official Vote)

Change of venue was discussed at the last meeting. A new location has been established to move the meeting into the community in hopes to gain more attendance. Thank you to Jan LaPitz and Chris Sylvan for finding the new location, the Alamosa Community Center at 6900 Gonzales Rd SW # C, Albuquerque, NM 87121

A motion was made to approve the new meeting location, motion was seconded, and new location has been approved.

There will be no CPC meeting in March, the next CPC meeting will be held in April, 2018. Guest speakers will be rescheduled based on their availability starting with the April 2018 meeting. Jan LaPitz will follow through with the presenters she had scheduled moving both one month farther out if possible.

- Guest Speakers

Guest speakers will be rescheduled accordingly to accommodate the CPC summit in March.

- CPA (Citizens Policing Academy) announcement

Board members must go through the Citizens Police Academy, there is a bridged academy that will be held soon, board members will be getting information from Anna Ericksen, Community Service Assistant, regarding the shortened course.

The Citizens Police Academy is open to the public however the bridge academy is not.

- Questions **

An attendee wanted to know why she should join the CPC's; the board, Chris Sylvan (CPC manager) and Ed Harness (Police Oversight Board Executive Director) addressed her questions and reviewed the CPC goals, recommendations, history and actions of the CPC's as well as the Police Oversight Board.

- Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 7:45

Next meeting: Wednesday, April 11th, 2018 6-7:30PM.