



Foothills Community Policing Council

Annual Report 2025

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INTRODUCTION

The Foothills Community Policing Council (FCPC) continued its work in 2025 to facilitate communication and support constitutional community policing between the Albuquerque Police Department (APD) and residents within the Foothills Area Command. A major milestone in 2025 was the dismissal of the federal consent decree.

PURPOSE

To promote and maintain positive, respectful, supportive, and cooperative interactions between members of the community and the Albuquerque Police Department to ensure constitutional community policing is established and sustained.

MEMBERSHIP

- Chair: Woody Simpson
- Vice-Chair: Brandon Aherns
- Secretary: Kaitlyn Manuelito
- Keith Hopper
- Howard DeLaCruz-Bancroft
- Anthony Rael
- Jennifer Lopez
- Anthony Ortiz

- Phyllis Marquez
- Paul Ripley
- Mark Soo Hoo
- Resignations: Keith Hopper – June 2025, Anthony Ortiz November 2025, and Kaitlyn Manuelito November 2025

Diversity Statistics (2025)

- Gender: Male 7 and 4 Female
- Ethnicity/Race: African American/Black – 2, Hispanic – 3, Hispanic/White – 2, White – 2, Asian American – 1, Native American – 0, Native American/White – 0, Native American/Alaska Native – 0, Native American/Pacific Islander – 0
- Age Distribution: 18-24 (0), 25-34 (1), 35-44 (4), 45-54 (2), 55-64 (1), 65+ (3)
- Education: 14 yrs – 1, 16 yrs – 5, 18 yrs – 2, 18+yrs – 3
- Language: English – 8, Bilingual (English/Spanish) – 2, Other – 1

GETTING TO WORK – MEETINGS

Monthly hybrid meetings were held from January through November 2025. Attendance ranged from approximately 12–30 members of the public, both in person and online.

- October Meeting: canceled due to Indigenous People’s Day Holiday
- December Meeting: canceled due to End of Year Recognition Ceremony

ACTIVITIES & ACHIEVEMENTS – 2025

- DOJ Consent Decree Compliance: APD leadership was recognized for achieving approximately 99% compliance with and transitioning out of the Department of Justice consent decree.
- Crime Reduction: Significant reductions in major crime categories were reported throughout the year.
 - Auto theft demonstrated a consistent downward trend.
 - Residential and commercial burglaries declined across several reporting periods.
 - Robbery trends remained lower than in previous comparative periods.
 - Overall violent crime trended downward, as reported by APD leadership.
- Improved Policing and Safety:
 - APD reported improved clearance rates supported by technology investments including surveillance systems and acoustic gunshot detection.
 - The National Guard provided over 2,400 hours of scene security assistance.
 - The Albuquerque Community Safety (ACS) Department continued its 24/7 operations with a high volume of responses, successfully diverting non-violent calls for service from sworn officers.
- Community Engagement and Support:
 - Community engagement was fostered through events like National Night Out, Coffee with a Cop, Touch-a-Truck, Public Safety Day, and the Summer of Non-Violence.
 - Crime Stoppers and community partners were recognized for their continued public safety support, including the Cops for Kids initiative.
 - End of the Year Recognition Ceremony was held at the Albuquerque Museum. A CNM Law Enforcement Academy member was our guest speaker.
- Partnerships and Recognitions:
 - APD Officers of the Month and Officer of the Year were formally recognized.

- Bernalillo County Metro Detention Center (MDC) was acknowledged for its transparency in reporting population and staffing trends and for discussions on reentry programs.
- The Animal Welfare Department was recognized for policy updates and strengthened enforcement of the H.E.A.R.T. ordinance.

RECOMMENDATIONS AND LESSONS LEARNED

- Recommendations Submitted: **Right Answer Project:** Improve the accuracy of AI search results on APD topics by reviewing responses to high-interest public safety issues, identifying gaps, and coordinating with APD Dispatch and cabq.com content owners to strengthen public-facing information.
- Lessons Learned: The council identified a continued need for member recruitment, increased public awareness, and ensured a consistent quorum for meetings.

CHALLENGES – 2025

- Recruitment and retention of diverse CPC members.
- Maintaining a consistent quorum at meetings.
- Increasing public awareness of the CPC mission.
- Volunteer time constraints.
- Homelessness – citizen education and awareness regarding the homeless population and engagement avenues for resolution.

GOALS FOR 2026

- ✚ Expand public awareness of the CPC through radio/TV messaging, billboard advertising, and increased community visibility by council members.
- ✚ Strengthen the quality and relevance of recommendations submitted to APD.
- ✚ Recruit additional council members representing broader geographic areas and greater ethnic diversity within the Foothills Area Command.
- ✚ Increase community engagement through outreach efforts, including a City-Wide CPC Town Hall and CPC visibility at major events such as the Balloon Fiesta.
- ✚ Enhance collaboration with the Mayor’s Office and APD to improve recognition and support for the CPC in public venues and city operations.
- ✚ Education for citizens regarding interaction with the homeless population from APD.
- ✚ Express support for civil competency laws and express support for change related to NMSA30-9-1.2 – interim placement while waiting for psychiatric placement.

Respectfully submitted,

Foothills Community Policing Council
 Woody Simpson, 2025