

Northwest Area Command

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ISSUE 10 March 2015



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From the Commander's Desk

Hello Neighbors,

Join me in welcoming the warmer weather and beautiful climate- New Mexico's finest! With the warmer weather we welcome budding trees and flowers, sunshine, and those darn allergies! Hopefully, with a little luck from Mother Nature we won't have to suffer too long. This month the Northwest focused on some of the quality of life issues. Specifically we targeted speeding and panhandling.

As the Commander for the Northwest Area Command I often receive complaints of speeding. In particular, Coors and Unser receive the highest number of complaints. This is expected since Coors and Unser are the most travelled thoroughfares in the NW for north/south traffic. It is no secret that speed is often a contributing factor to accidents and the level of injuries sustained. In an effort to

thwart speeding in the NW, field officers have been field briefing along these roads, and other thoroughfares, issuing citations. In addition, speed signs are being used to remind motorists of their speeds. In fact, one of our speed signs provides feedback about the traffic speeds in the area they are deployed. Please remind your neighborhoods to be cognizant of their speeds for the safety of themselves and others. Officers will continue to patrol and issue citations this month as well.

A second initiative during the month of February focused on the panhandlers in the Northwest Area Command. The tact plan was used to identify those who were homeless and/or in need of services, as opposed to someone who was just trying to make money. The Northwest worked with the Crisis Outreach and Support Team (**COAST) on February 26th and handed out

information to those they contacted. The Northwest Officers will continue to identify panhandlers and assist those in need.

***COAST is a civilian team that works out of the Family Advocacy Center, within the Albuquerque Police Department. COAST acts as a liaison for people who are in crisis and in need of resources, services, and/or education. If you or someone you know is in crisis and could benefit from COAST services, their information is provided within this newsletter.*

As we move head on into spring please remember that criminal activity generally increases and this calls for all of us to become more aware of our surroundings. Be aware of how you leave your property when it is unattended. Consider whether or not it could be enticing to criminals. Did you roll up your windows in your vehicle? Did you lock your car? What about the doors/ windows to your home, are they closed and locked? Did you leave any valuable items, or the appearance of valuable items, in your vehicle? Did you notice a man/ woman walking in your neighborhood that seems out of place? Please become aware of your surroundings. Report suspicious activity and remind others to do the same! If we don't invite the criminals to our neighborhoods then they won't be as likely to come by or stick around. Let's work together and...*if you see something say something!!!* Have a safe and happy St. Patrick's Day.



The Northwest Area Command

Commander

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Citizen Contact Center:
311

Police Non-Emergency:
242-COPS (2677)

Police Emergency: 911

COAST

The Crisis Outreach and Support Team (COAST) is designed to enhance the Albuquerque Police Department's Crisis Intervention Team. COAST provides a link to resources, services and community education in response to police referrals and citizen requests. COAST is a community resource that works with family members and individuals with a wide variety of crisis related needs. Our goal is to set a standard of excellence with respect to responding to individuals in crisis. This is done by establishing unique and innovative responses for every person that we work with. COAST strives to reduce the impact on the community by providing that vital link between people in crisis and follow-up services. COAST Crisis Specialists have been provided with quality training and are part of a specialized team focusing on helping people regain stability after a crisis.

RESOURCE INFORMATION

IN ANY EMERGENCY	DIAL 911
Non-Emergency City Services	DIAL 311
Police Non-Emergency	505-242-2677
Crisis Outreach & Support Team	505-924-6000

These are just a few of the resources available:

Agora Crisis	505-277-3013
Runaway Hotline	800-Runaway
Alb. Rape Crisis Center	505-266-7711

Shelters

Barrett House	505-243-4887
Good Sheppard	505-243-2527
Joy Junction	505-877-6967
Rescue Mission	505-346-4673
Amistad (teen)	505-877-0371
New Day (teen)	505-938-1060

Mental Health Services

Albq. Metro Central Intake	505-272-9033
UNM Mental Health ER	505-272-2920
St. Martin's Mental Health	505-764-8231

Homeless Services

Albq Opportunity Center	505-344-4340
Health Care for Homeless	505-242-4644
St. Martin's	505-843-9405

Substance Abuse Services

Albq. Metro Central Intake	505-272-9033
MATS Detox	505-468-1555

Domestic Violence Services

Victim Assistance Unit	505-768-2104
Safe House	505-247-4219
DV Hotline	800-773-3645

Abuse & Neglect Reporting

Child Protective Services	505-841-6100
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COAST Office

Family Advocacy Center

625 Silver SW, 87102

COAST responds to referrals from Albuquerque Police officers who have come in contact with citizens who would benefit from being connected to community resources and services. COAST is a support unit of the APD and is not available to respond directly to calls to 242-COPS or 911. If you have a question please call the COAST office at 924-6000. If you have a crisis situation needing an immediate response please call

242-COPS or 911.

Outreach

The COAST Unit will continue to develop strong working relationships with local service providers in order to assure a continuum of services in the community. They will also provide training and educational presentations to law enforcement and the community.

The main goal of the COAST Unit is to help individuals and their families re-claim a sense of well-being in the aftermath of a crisis. If you have questions regarding services please call COAST. COAST Crisis Specialist will help link you to the resources and services that best suit your needs, and those of your loved ones.

ALBUQUERQUE POLICE DEPARTMENT

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400 Roma Blvd NW

Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102

Watch I Lieutenant L. Pocci

As winter starts to come to an end, we here on Northwest Graveyard are looking forward to the springtime and some warmer weather. This past month we continued our tact plans that targeted property crime offenders and also emphasized educating citizens on ways to keep themselves and their property safe.

One event I would like to mention was a stabbing call that our officers responded to. A victim had been stabbed by her boy-

friend and the boyfriend was in the apartment still armed with the knife threatening suicide. Officers responded and found the male with the knife to his throat. SWAT was called and the male surrendered without incident. He was subsequently booked into jail. Thanks to everyone who contributed to the peaceful resolution!

Watch II Lieutenant T. Espinosa

Hello everyone!
Now that we have got settled into the year we have focused our effort on several areas of concern. There has been a noticeable increase in auto burglaries in the area, specifically the apartment complexes. Uniformed officers as well as detectives have focused their effort in these areas. Please make sure you are aware of your surroundings and do not leave any valuables in your vehicles especially overnight.

We are still having several vehicles that are being stolen when people are leaving them warming up in the morning. Once again, please do not leave your vehicles unattended while they warm up. We all know how much of a hassle this can be, but just think of how much more of a hassle it will

be if your vehicle were to be stolen.
Early morning commuters please slow down! We are focusing our traffic enforcement on both Coors and Unser as best as we can. We have noticed an increase in complaints of speeders especially on Unser Blvd. Please watch your speed and be aware of other drivers. We have uniformed officers conducting speed tact plans along these thoroughfares to keep people safe.

We are partnering with our COAST unit to target the areas with high homeless/transient populations. The COAST unit provides resources in order for our transient population to get the help that they need. If there are any areas of concern please contact me.

The officers of Northwest Dayshift are working hard to meet the needs of the citizens of our area. We will continue to do our best to alleviate issues of concerns, and reduce the traffic problems and property crimes.



Watch Contact Information

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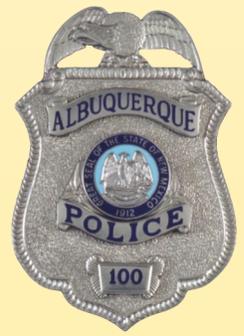
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Watch III Lieutenant S. Altman

Hello Everyone,

I hope that everyone had a great month and start to this year. This month I wanted to talk about something other than crime that I feel people who live in the Northwest side of town should be informed about. The City of Albuquerque has created what we call the Collaborative on Police-Community Relations group. Each area command has created one and ours has been titled NWPC. The NWPC has asked that I advise community members about the dates and times we are meeting in this monthly newsletter. This group is comprised of approved Northwest community stakeholders along with representatives picked by the Albuquerque Police Department. We are still in the design phase but are now to the point where we will publish dates and times for citizens to attend.

The purpose is to give impute to the NWPC so that we can make the Albuquerque Police Department even better. This is your time to bring up any issues of concern or advise in regard to APD. We as a board, will begin to cre-

ate new ideas with input from the community to give to the City of Albuquerque for hopeful implementation. I will be attending the Westside Coalition meeting this week to tell what we are about. The first public meeting will be on March 11, 2015, at 6 PM at the Taylor Ranch Community Center located at Golf Course and Kachina NW. Hope to see everyone there.
Lt. Steve Altman, Swing Shift

505-659-7853

Crime Prevention Tips: To help you avoid being a victim of crime

ON ANY STREET

Stay alert: "You always have to be cognizant of the situation and your surroundings anywhere you go. You have to stay alert. If something is going to happen to you, it's going to happen to you when you're not alert.

Walk the walk: Be confident and look like you know where you're going and what you're doing. "Don't carry yourself like a victim. Walk with purpose.

Better yet, don't walk alone: "Be with somebody else, even a child. Criminals look to attack you when you're alone and you appear to be weak,

Don't accessorize: Leave your purse and your headphones at home when you walk ... but carry a cell phone. Have it out and on.

IN YOUR CAR

Keep your car doors locked. If possible, get a car with remote access so you can get in without fumbling with keys in locks.

Don't stop to remove a flier from your windshield. "Criminals will sometimes put a note there, hoping you'll get out of your car to read it.

Put your purse and other valuables on the floor or in the trunk, out of sight even while driving. Keep out of sight to avoid tempting snatch-and-grab crooks when you stop at stoplights.

In parking structures, go toward the light. "Park where there is traffic, not in the back where it's quiet and dark. Criminals like it quiet and dark. car..

Crime Prevention Specialists Corner

SCAM, FRAUD AND CON GAMES

Can you spot a con artist or con game? Most of us think we can – that we're too smart to fall victim to one of the leading crimes in our country today. The sad reality is, generally it's not that easy. Con artists rob all kinds of people of millions of dollars every year. Cons, scams, and frauds attempt to victimize us with false promises of miracle cures, financial security and fabulous prizes. Remember, if it sounds too good to be true, it probably is.



APD's Northwest Area Command Headquarters is Albuquerque Police Department's first LEED Gold Certified facility. Also the city's largest substation, it commemorates fallen officers Michael R. King & Richard W. Smith Jr. Giving the officers of Albuquerque's NW quadrant a much needed presence in the community.

Crime Prevention Specialists Corner Continued

Follow these tips to help prevent you from becoming a victim:

- Never give a caller your Social Security Number, credit card information, bank account number, or phone card over the phone. It's illegal for telemarketers to ask for these types of numbers to verify a prize or gift.
- Beware of 900 numbers. If you call a 900 number to claim a "prize," you might end up paying for the call. Understand all charges prior to making the call.
- Don't allow an aggressive con artist to pressure you into making a quick decision. Demand information in writing by mail. Also, get a second opinion.
- You have the right and the power to say NO. If the caller makes you wary, be assertive and end the conversation. They often pray on the trusting, polite nature of people and the excitement over receiving a prize or bargain. You can prevent a crime and financial loss by saying no and hanging up the phone.
- Look closely at offers that come in the mail. Con artists often use official-looking forms and language. You are not obligated to respond to an offer you did not initiate.
- If you have lost a loved one and you receive a call asking for payment for something they ordered or purchased prior to their death, do not make payment until investigating.

- Beware of cheap home repair work especially if it is initiated by door-to-door soliciting. The con artist may do an incomplete job, use less than appropriate materials and untrained workers, or simply take your deposit and never return. Never pay with cash. Never accept offers from someone who "just happened to be in the neighborhood." Always check their credentials, work history and licenses prior to contracting services.

- If someone rips you off or you detect a fraud or con game, report the contact with police, the consumer protection office, Credit Reporting Agencies (See Below) and/or the District Attorney's office.

- **Remember – If some one is attempting to gain information about you and you did not initiate the call or contact, consider it the beginning of a scam and discontinue the conversation. If you want information about a service or purchase, you make the initial contact.**

What to do if you are a victim of a theft or lose your purse or wallet:

Cancel credit cards immediately – keep account numbers and toll free numbers handy. File a police report immediately to prove diligence on your part. Call the three national credit-reporting organizations immediately to place a fraud alert on your name and Social Security Number.

Equifax @ 1-800-525-6285

Experian @ 1-800-397-3742

Trans Union @ 1-800-680-7289

Federal Trade Commission

@ 1-877-IDTHEFT/438-4338



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