

Northwest Area Command

Michael R. King and Richard W. Smith Jr.

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From the Commander's Desk

Hello Neighbors,

Summer is in full effect and as the temperatures continue to rise, we must remain extra diligent. Our kids are out of school for a couple of more months and there are a number of children out and about. Let's continue to be mindful of our surroundings, particularly while we are driving! The Northwest had another fatal accident to report this past month and I urge drivers to be cautious especially in/ around intersections.

Also during the month of May, I have seen an increase in several areas of property crime. One increasing trend throughout the city is the use of garage door openers as a means of gaining entry into homes. I met with our crime analysts this week and they had reported criminals burglarizing vehicles, taking the garage door opener, and entering

the home. In the Northwest we had one scenario like this. In this instance criminals broke into a vehicle, opened the garage door (with the garage door opener), went inside the home, stole valuable property (including car keys) and left the premises with two of the victim's vehicles. This incident occurred while the homeowners were inside the home asleep. I am happy to report these criminals were caught in El Paso; but, this is a valuable lesson to those who continue to leave garage door openers in the vehicle. It is time to reconsider where garage door openers and personal information are kept. Criminals who burglarize your vehicle can quickly learn where you reside just by looking at personal documents like vehicle registrations/ insurance. Consider keeping important personal information such as insurance/ registration in your locked trunk, purse or wallet and

never leaving a garage door opener.

In June there will be movement amongst officers throughout the area commands. Each year officers are given the opportunity to change shift/ supervisors/area commands (dependent upon seniority) this is called a "bid". Our bid for the year will be taking effect June 13th. What does this mean to you? Well, first and foremost, many of the common faces that we have grown to know and love may be changing. I hope to have our annual Officer Appreciation Day soon so we can all meet and mingle! I will post this information as soon as it becomes available

In closing, I just wanted to take a moment to recognize one of our fallen brothers in blue, Greg "Nigel" Benner who was killed in the line of duty. He was a fine Officer who served the Rio Rancho Police Department and its community. As a US Air Force Veteran he was no stranger to living a life of service. I am eternally grateful to him and his family for all they gave. Officer Benner paid the ultimate sacrifice and will never be forgotten. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his family.

We must continue to work toward a greater good and together we can! A reminder....*If you see something say something!!* Wishing all of you a safe summer



The Northwest Area Command

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311

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Police Emergency: 911

Watch I Lieutenant L. Pocci

As the weather has warmed up and the school year has ended, we here at Northwest grave have seen the calls for service pick up. We also are getting ready to welcome some new officers to the command for the new bid, which starts June 13th. I'm happy to say that most of the current officers from the graveyard shift have stayed in the area command. This is an advantage for us because they know the area and are familiar with the problem areas in the command. The officers who did return are excellent officers and I am very happy to have them back. One call I would like to highlight for the month of May occurred at the Firestone Tires on Coors. A female who's car had broken down

was parked at the Firestone waiting for it to open. While sleeping in her car a subject attempted to break into her car by breaking the back window. The suspect left the area when they realized someone was in the vehicle. Needless to say this frightened the victim a great deal. When officers arrived they were able to calm the victim down and they stayed with her for a couple of hours until the Firestone opened. The victim was very thankful for this and submitted a written thank you through the Mayor's Office. This is an example of the exemplary work done by Albuquerque Police Officers on a daily basis.

Watch II Lieutenant T. Espinosa

The summer season is officially upon us. This means we have a lot more people out and about during the day time, especially younger kids in residential areas. The recent construction that has begun on Coors and I40 area has caused some major delays and traffic issues with people trying to access the freeway. We are aware of the issues and have focused our efforts in trying to make these access areas as safe as possible for both drivers and pedestrians. We have become aware of the fact that many drivers are using several different residential streets in order to try and avoid the traffic. If you live in these neighborhoods, please be careful and keep children off of the street. If you see or have any issues with traffic in or around this area do not hesitate to contact us.

Our tactical operations have continued throughout the area command focusing on the Traffic related issues along Coors and Unser. We have also focused our efforts on the auto burglaries in our apartment

complexes as well as our residential hot spots. Make sure and keep an eye out for suspicious people/activity in your neighborhoods and do not hesitate to call police.

We are coming up to our bid change which means we will have several new officers in the area command. For the most part you will see the same familiar faces being that I will be returning as well as my sergeants. There will be several new offices in our neighborhood so do not hesitate to introduce yourselves.

If there are any special events that will be in your neighborhood we would love to be a part of them so that we can get to know our community better.

As always the officers and detectives of the Northwest Area command are committed to focusing on the areas of concern that are brought to our attention.

Hope you all have a great kick off to your summer and make sure to wear sunscreen.



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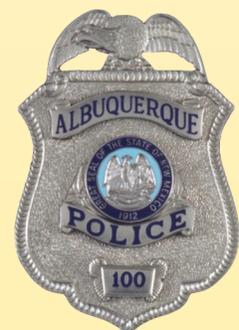
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Watch III Lieutenant D. Sedillo

Hello from Swing shift,

This month I would like to introduce myself. My name Lieutenant David Sedillo I am taking over Swing shift from Lieutenant Steve Altman who has moved on to the Northeast Area Command.

I am a lifelong resident of Albuquerque and I have lived in the Northwest Area Command for 15 years. Before joining APD I received my Bachelor of Arts Degree from the University of New Mexico. I have 18 years of Law Enforcement experience. During that time I have worked in Open Space, Metro Court and Field Services.

I am very happy to be working in such a great part of city, and I look forward to working with you.

Lt. David Sedillo

Northwest Area Command

Swing Shift/Watch III

(505) 977-0491

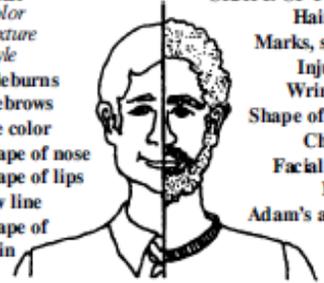


Crime Prevention Tips: For Being a Good Witness

DESCRIBING A SUSPECT

FACE

| | |
|---------------|----------------------|
| HAIR | SHAPE OF FACE |
| color | Hair line |
| texture | Marks, scars |
| style | Injuries |
| Sideburns | Wrinkles |
| Eyebrows | Shape of ears |
| Eye color | Cheeks |
| Shape of nose | Facial hair |
| Shape of lips | Neck |
| Jaw line | Adam's apple |
| Shape of Chin | |



BODY

DESCRIPTION FROM HEAD TO FOOT

- Race
- Sex
- Apparent age
in 5 to 10 year units
- Height in feet
and 2 inch units
- Weight/Build
in 10 pound units
- Hair, eye & skin color
- Scars, marks, tattoos
- Clothing
description from head to toe
- Head coverings, eyeglasses, coat, jacket, shirt, sweater, blouse, vest, pants, skirt
color, length, material, type, collar, sleeves, legs and condition
- Shoes, socks
- Unusual features



Crime Prevention Specialists Corner

ROAD RAGE

Road rage can include rude gestures, verbal insults, driving unsafely on purpose, making threats and even harming someone else in a confrontation. Know the signs from you and other drivers to prevent dangerous driving, accidents and unwanted confrontations. Engaging in aggressive driving, including: Following too close.



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

Road Rage/Protect Yourself

If you are dealing with an aggressive driver, make sure your doors are locked. If you're stopped in traffic, leave enough room to pull out from behind the car you're following. If an aggressive driver confronts you, dial 911 or go to the nearest police station.

Don't take it personally.

Be polite and courteous, even if the other driver isn't. Avoid any conflict, if possible. If another driver challenges you, take a deep breath and move out of the way! Never underestimate the other driver's capacity for causing mayhem.

Reduce your own stress.

Allow plenty of time for a trip and listen to soothing music when you drive. Make sure your seat position and climate are both comfortable for you. And mostly understand that you cannot control traffic, only your reaction to it. In the end, you may find that personal frustration, anger and impatience are the real danger zones on the highway.

Report aggressive drivers to the police

If you make a call, be sure you give a vehicle description, license num-

ber, and the location and travel direction. You could prevent a tragedy.

REMEMBER:

- ◆ Be a courteous driver.
- ◆ You can set the example, which can help make our roads safer.
- ◆ Control your anger.
- ◆ Don't take traffic problems personally.
- ◆ Avoid making eye contact with an aggressive driver.
- ◆ Don't make obscene gestures.
- ◆ Don't tailgate.
- ◆ Use your horn sparingly — even a polite honk can be misinterpreted.
- ◆ Don't block the passing lane.
- ◆ Don't block the right turn lane.



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