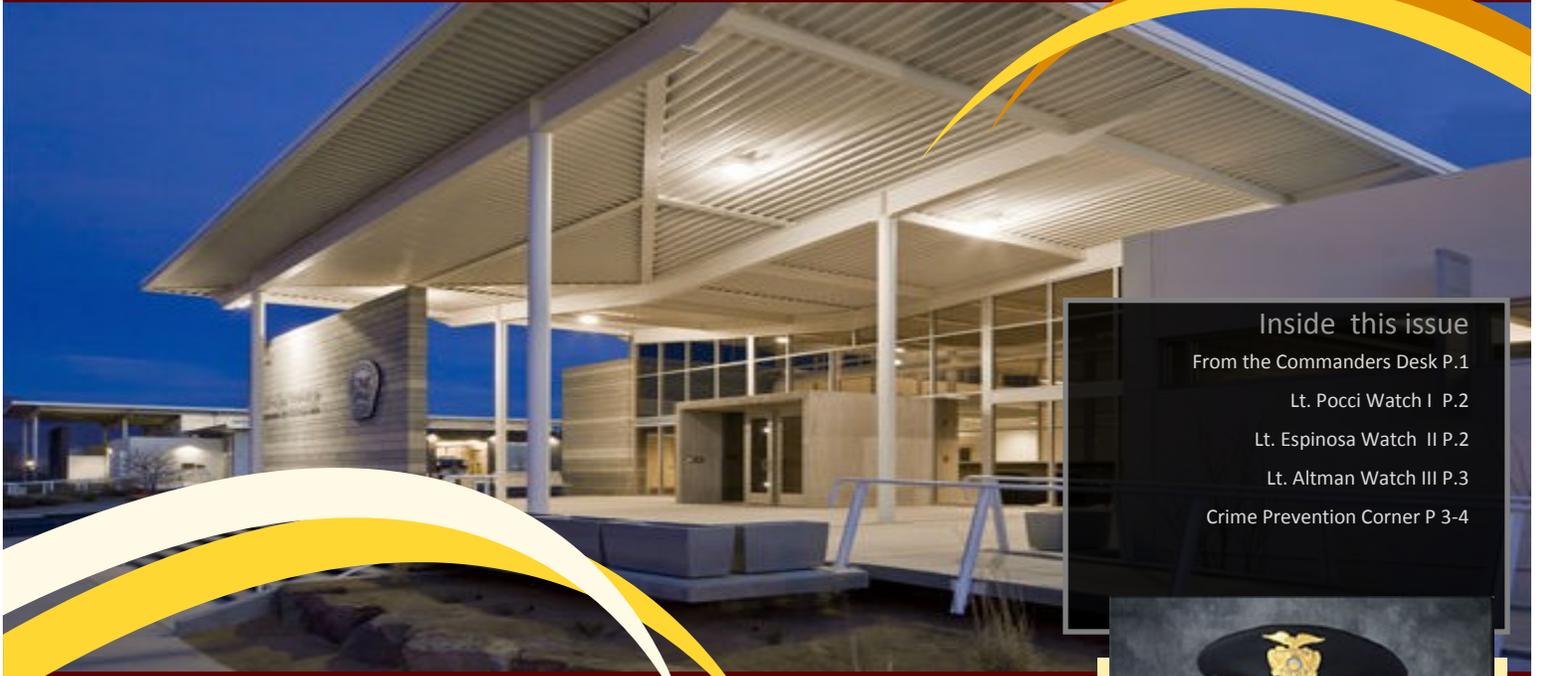


# Northwest Area Command

Michael R. King and Richard W. Smith Jr.

ISSUE 12 May 2015



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## From the Commander's Desk

Hello Neighbors,

I cannot believe another month has come and gone. April seemed to just fly by. Throughout the month I had the opportunity to meet with several neighborhood associations and share in really noteworthy discourse. As many of you know I stress communication and would like to thank all who have participated. In particular, those who put in their time and effort for their neighborhoods as block captains or neighborhood association members.

Last month I stressed the APD recruitment efforts and this month I would like to stress increased neighborhood involvement. The Northwest is fortunate to have some of the lowest crime statistics in the City, but

our auto burglaries have increased (compared to this time, last year).

Each month I meet with neighbors and share some of the crime trends that may be directly affecting the Northwest, or the City as whole. The Northwest continues to battle increasing auto burglaries. As many of you know we are one of the fastest growing area commands in the City, which is partially to blame, but we are often responsible for leaving valuables in our cars and/or leaving our vehicles unsecured.

Our Crime Prevention Specialist, Pete Gelabert, has given us many pamphlets/ articles about auto burglary prevention, but I want to remind everyone he also provides free training. Many of us know that we should be securing our vehicles by locking the

doors and rolling up the windows, as well as removing valuables; however, we must continue to remind people.

This month I would like to encourage each of you to pass this information along to a neighbor or friend who doesn't know about the information available in our newsletter, on-line ([northwestareacommmand.com](http://northwestareacommmand.com)), or at the substation. Let's recruit more eyes and ears! As I have mentioned in the past, the number of officers out on the streets are not as abundant as in years past. We must continue to increase our situational awareness by bringing more informed neighbors to the forefront and getting them involved. If the Northwest can assist by meeting with potential block captains, or neighborhood association members, please let Pete Gelabert or myself know. Just give us a call at the Northwest Substation at 505-768-4850.

In sum, I am stressing the recruitment of more eyes and ears from your neighbors and neighborhoods. I am encouraged by the positive dialog received in the neighborhood association meetings and I want to extend the invitation to as many of our residents as possible. Let's continue to work together to combat crime and continue communicating! We all need to get involved.

*As always.....If you see something say something!! I wish you all a safe month and to all of our mom's*



The Northwest Area Command

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**Citizen Contact Center:**  
**311**

**Police Non-Emergency:**  
**242-COPS (2677)**

**Police Emergency: 911**

# Watch I Lieutenant L. Pocci

As April concludes and the warm weather has already arrived, we are starting to head into the summer months. Soon enough the schools will be out and the Northwest graveyard watch is ready for the volume of calls to increase. During the month of April the watch as a whole concentrated their efforts on the public parks at the south end of the area command. Random checks were made on the parks to ensure compliance with park closing hours. Towards the end of the month when officers checked the parks they were

clear, so it looks like their efforts are accomplishing the desired results. Officers also stepped up patrol of the 24 hour gas stations that are in the area command. Officers noticed an increase in calls for service there so they did random checks and contacted the clerks that work there. During May, the graveyard officers will concentrate some of their efforts in the numerous apartment complexes in the area command to help curtail property crimes that have been occurring.

# Watch II Lieutenant T. Espinosa

Hello everyone!  
It has been a busy month and I hope everyone is getting ready for a fun summer. Being that this time of year is the end of the school year and it is graduation season, I would like to congratulate any graduates out there and those of you who have loved ones that are graduating as well.

forts in this area and will continue to do so in the future. Please report any traffic issues as soon as possible.

We have continued to have auto burglaries in our I-40/Coors corridor. If you have any information that could help identify any offender (s), please get ahold of us. We have continued to have patrols and undercover operations targeting property crimes in this area as well.

We have had a significant issue with speeding on Coors in the Montano/ Dellyne area. Unfortunately we had a fatal accident at the intersection of Coors and Dellyne. We are ramping up our enforcement ef-

As always the officers of the Northwest Area Command will continue to address the issues in our area command. We are consistently working with the community to focus on your areas of concern.



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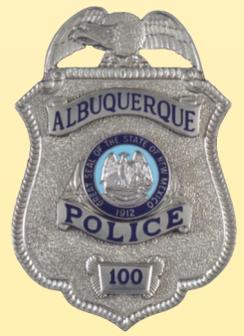
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## Watch III Lieutenant S. Altman

Hello from Swing shift,

Well it has been a busy month so far in the Northwest Area Command on swing shift. Officers have been working extremely hard and continued with their tactical plans which are Panhandlers at Coors and I-40 and up north by Melanie Lane and Alameda/NM 528. I am starting another operation which involves concentration of Officers at the Cottonwood Mall parking lots. I have noticed a moderate increase in auto burglaries recently and will try to address this crime. As a reminder, please do not leave anything in your vehicle that is visible and valuable.

This may be my final newsletter for this year due to the Field Services Annual bid and the possibility that I will be transferred to another part of the city. I want to thank everyone for their involvement with making the Northwest Area the best place to live. I am glad to have met so many people in this community and hope to see everyone again soon. This month will also be my final meeting with the

NWCPC but it will continue on without me. Additionally, I know that involvement in this board is vital for its success so please apply to be a member if you are able to give your time. Take care and feel free to contact me with any questions.

Lt. Steve Altman  
Northwest Area Command  
Swing Shift/Watch III  
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### Crime Prevention Tips: For Auto Burglary Prevention

CAR BURGLARIES are very difficult cases to solve due to the burglars usually leaving very little physical evidence behind after a car burglary has occurred. The crimes usually occur in business parking lots and residential streets and driveways at night, when it is less likely the thieves will be seen. Some of the most common places we have seen car burglaries are locations where people are doing some type of physical activity requiring them to leave their valuables behind in their vehicle. Burglars will target parking lots that include (businesses, shopping malls and gyms).

*\*In order to help reduce the risk of becoming a victim of a car burglary we have provided some easy tips to follow. ALWAYS close your windows and lock your car doors. An open window or unlocked door is an invitation to a criminal.*

- **PARK** in well lit areas close to the building. While parking in an isolated spot may reduce the risk of door dings, a criminal looks for cars parked out of the way in order to help ensure less attention is drawn to them.
- **REMOVE** loose valuables from your vehicle. This includes purses, wallets, cellular phones, laptop computers, briefcases, backpacks and gym bags. A car burglar loves to see items that can be grabbed easily and carried away without much effort. A brick through the window is all it takes to gain access to those loose items.
- **REPORT** suspicious persons seen wandering around in parking lots or looking into cars as they walk by you can even call and remain anonymous. You can call the Albuquerque Police Department at 242-COPS (2677) or 911 if you see a burglary in progress. Keep a list of serial numbers for your commonly used electronic equipment. Even if you plan on never leaving a cellular phone or laptop computer in your car, you should record all of the following information: Make of item, model number and serial number.

**\*Having this information available is necessary in order to enter the items into the police computer database. This will aid the police in trying to locate the items if the offender(s) are found with them or if they are pawned. This will also ensure the property is returned to the rightful owner.**

## Crime Prevention Specialists Corner

### Summer Safety Tips for Kids

The final school bell has rung, the pencils and notebooks are packed away and the kids are ready for some summer fun! Children love the hot summer months, because they provide the perfect opportunity to spend lots of time outside. Whether it's swimming in the pool, hiking through the woods, taking long walks, or going for a bike ride, there is something for everyone, no matter how young or old. We hope that everyone enjoys this special time of year, but we want to also remind parents that there are potential dangers during the summer months, and it's important to be aware of what they are. The more information one learns about how to prevent illnesses and injuries, the less likely they will occur.



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

### Helmet Safety:

- An appropriate helmet must be worn whenever a child is "on wheels." This means bicycles, scooters, skates, roller-blades, skateboards and more!
- The helmet must fit properly.
- Helmets can be life saving and can protect a child from serious injury.
- Be sure the right type of helmet is being used. For example, a bike helmet needs to be used for biking. Moms and dads should wear helmets as well.

### Pedestrian Safety:

- Teach children to walk, not run, across the street.
- Children should cross only with an adult or an older, responsible child.
- Whenever crossing the street, try to make eye contact with any drivers nearby, to be sure they see you.
- Teach children to avoid running out from between parked cars.
- Use sidewalks whenever possible.
- Always hold your child's hand near any moving or parked vehicles. Adults always need to set a good example!

### Water Safety:

Adult supervision is of paramount importance. Parents need to focus on their children 100% of the time. No distractions!

- Remember, no child or adult is "drown proof."

### Sun Protection:

- Avoid sun exposure during peak sun hours (10 AM – 6 PM).
- Wear protective clothing and a wide

brimmed hat and sunglasses (with 99-100% UV protection).

- Sunscreen is a must (on sunny and cloudy days)! Look for products with UVA and UVB protection and an SPF of at least 15 (according to the American Academy of Pediatrics and American Association of Dermatology).
- Sunscreen should be applied liberally 30 minutes before going out in the sun, and reapplied every two hours or sooner if swimming, sweating or toweling off. Look for shade whenever possible.

### Summer First Aid Kit:

- Every family should have at least one first aid kit at home which is well stocked and readily accessible.
  - Kids get lots of cuts and scrapes during the warm summer months, so it's nice to be prepared.
  - Don't forget to restock the kit once an item has been used.
- Be sure to keep a list of emergency numbers where they are easy to find. This list should include: emergency medical services (911), the doctor's number, the dentist's number, poison control, a number where mom and/or dad can be reached and any other important phone numbers.

### Dehydration and Heat-Related Illnesses:

- Keeping well hydrated is very important.
  - Children (and adults) must remember to drink.
  - Do not wait until a child says he is thirsty before offering fluids. At this point, he is already dehydrated, so be sure to provide plenty of fluids before going outside, while out in the heat and afterwards.
  - Playing in the hot summer sun means lots of fluid losses, so avoid strenuous activity during peak sun hours (10 am- 6 pm). Look for shade and take lots of breaks.
- Seek medical attention immediately for any signs of heat-related illness.



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