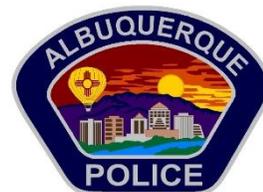




**Timothy M. Keller**  
Mayor

# City of Albuquerque

## Albuquerque Police Department



**Harold J. Medina**  
Interim Chief of Police

January 13, 2021

### **Interoffice Memorandum**

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**To:** Janette Carrillo, Office Assistant, Chief's Office

**From:** Laura Kuehn, NCPS, ICPS - Crime Prevention/Crime Free Programs

**Subject:** Foothills CPC Recommendation Regarding Block Captains

Guidance for the Neighborhood Watch Program is taken from the National Sheriffs' Association, National Crime Prevention Council, and Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance. The Neighborhood Watch Program began in Albuquerque in the mid-1980s and has continued since as a staple of Crime Prevention programming for the Albuquerque Police Department.

A Neighborhood Watch is formed by hosting an organizing meeting for a one block area. A Crime Prevention Specialist from the APD presents general crime prevention information to the neighbors and discusses strategies for addressing any crime or concerns that are occurring on the block. A Block Captain is selected by the assembled neighbors to serve as a leader and point of contact for the block. The Block Captain is an integral component to keeping the block active and communicating.

The focus of the Neighborhood Watch program is a grass-roots, block-by-block organizing effort. The definition and scope of Neighborhood Watch and of the Block Captain has not changed or been redefined. Neighborhood Associations comprise numerous city blocks and the scope of their focus is greater than that of a Neighborhood Watch. The Community Policing Councils are congruent with the APD Area Commands and their scope and focus is greater than that of a Neighborhood Association.

A Neighborhood Association President or Community Policing Council member could become a Block Captain by following the process outlined above. A CPC member can be active in a Neighborhood Association, or a Neighborhood Association President can serve on a CPC, but the process is not automatic; joining a CPC does not automatically make one an officer of a Neighborhood Association and being elected as a Neighborhood Association President does not automatically make one a CPC member. Likewise, joining a CPC or being the President of a Neighborhood Association does not automatically make one a Block Captain.

There is a process for becoming member of the Community Policing Councils, there is a process for becoming a Neighborhood Association President and there is a process for becoming a Neighborhood Watch Block Captain. Each of these community leadership positions serves a critical function in the fabric of Albuquerque and should remain whole and undiluted in its role.

cc: J.J. Griego, Deputy Chief of Police, Management Services and Support Bureau  
Leonard Nerbetski, Commander, Real Time Crime Center  
Amanda Bustos, CPOA, Community Engagement Specialist