



## Foothills CPC: February 2021 Newsletter

Has everyone adapted to writing '2021' yet? Or have we all quit writing checks (and letters)? Wasn't long ago that I accidentally wrote "1969" on a check; do not know where that came from! One thing sure: I'm glad to have 2020 behind me.

**Many great things** just ahead! Two special speakers will present during next Monday's forum: the gang unit and the air support unit will both discuss their operations, some of the challenges they face, and the ways in which their operations mesh with that of the rest of the police department and how they enhance our public safety. And, of course, Commander Collins will provide an update on operations here in the Foothills.

**Questions** for our presenters can be typed in to the "chat window" during the webinar or can be sent to me in advance. I'll pass questions I receive along to the presenters, but the ones in the chat will be asked during the presentations.

Our February webinar will provide **Kelly Mensah** an opportunity to introduce himself to our community. Kelly is the new Administrative Liaison for the Community Policing Councils (CPCs). He is assigned a (virtual) office at the CPOA (Civilian Police Oversight Agency). You'll remember that the new city ordinance that formally established the CPCs called for an administrator to assist with CPC operations. Kelly is learning his way around; it must be difficult since he doesn't have the actual physical contact that most of us knew in a lifetime of work.

We'll be introducing **a new member** of our CPC voting panel next Monday as well. It can be a long process going from "I think I'm interested" to "I'm gonna apply" and finally to "Welcome aboard." We are trying to provide opportunities to participate during the period of candidacy.

Also new: We had **a glitch with the access code** for reservations for the February webinar next Monday (the 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:00). Got that straightened out and re-sent it. Was delighted to see that this code can be re-used to make reservations each month for the rest of the year! We'll still have to use it to register, but not to worry, we'll still send an invitation each month with the agenda attached, and when you register, you'll receive a confirmation and a reminder; the final

reminder will come just about an hour before the webinar starts, so it won't get lost in the stack of incoming mail.

**Even more that's new:** Well, not quite yet, but "soon". As part of the details of our new relationship with the city (as a real organization), we'll have a dedicated e-mail address to use for CPC communications with our neighbors. Our one-on-one communications will still be personal, but when we send out newsletters and the like, we will use an address that will use an @cabq.gov location. Another new "tool" on the bench.

We've all heard about the process of recruiting and selecting a new **Chief of Police** that our town has embarked on. We (many of us) watched the interviews with the three finalists last Saturday. It was well done. The moderator asked tough questions that arose from citizen participation in recent weeks, and then gave each candidate an open-ended opportunity to respond. The three candidates provided differing views of law enforcement and the role of the Chief of Police in a department such as ours (with many challenges). It is our guess that most who watched developed preferences for the final choice, and now are waiting to see what happens. We cannot know the timetable but expect that a decision will be made and announced rather quickly. We are sure that the entire department would like this period of uncertainty to be over so they can get on with operations.

**Last month's newsletter** update from Commander Collins included information of a residential burglary in which an entire gun safe was taken (with its high value contents).

**Different crime news** this past weekend included the arrest of two young burglars. These guys perpetrated a brazen form of cat-burglary and were apparently involved in some 80 burglaries in Albuquerque and environs!

These two crooks generally entered homes when the residents were sleeping, using unlocked doors and windows. They stole electronics and other high-value items, and even drove off with at least one resident's truck.

Both types of burglary point up the need for self-protection. We cannot know how the gun-safe criminals knew about their target, but they surely did know and planned their attack accordingly. For the others, basic securing of doors and windows is essential, even when at home. Remember that social media provides incredible amounts of information on purchases, hobbies, expensive tools and toys, and times when no one will be home. Once we put it online, it is no longer ours to control.

Many keep **important documents** in fire-resistant lock boxes. These are heavy but not impossible to lift and take by burglars. Though the contents may not have street value, they may be very difficult or impossible to replace. For safety sake, such documents should at least be photographed with the pictures stored safely off-site (as in secure cloud storage). You will want to contact your attorney and insurance carriers for instructions on making and safekeeping of these records.

For all of us, the question of door locks is important. How many years has it been since you replaced your locks? If you don't remember, it's likely been too long. And, if you didn't replace or re-key them when you bought your home, it is past time; you cannot know who had keys before, and builders often use master key systems that allow all sorts of tradesmen access (and those keys can be misplaced or misused).

Be well and stay as safe as you can.

For the Foothills CPC,

Bob Carleton



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## January 2021

Greetings everyone,

One month down in 2021 so far and Foothills officers have been very busy. As the months start to warm up, we expect this to be a steady increase.

### **CADS:**

The table below contains the calls for service in the specific call category. These numbers are from the month of January 2021.

*This information is pulled from daily Calls for Service, which reflects all calls made to APD's 911 Emergency Communications Center. It does not reflect all crimes that police investigate, nor the final*

***outcome of crimes investigated. To put that into perspective, APD receives about 500,000 calls for service each year. By contrast, about 120,000 police reports are generated each year, which is more reflective of actual crimes. For that reason, the information listed should not be used to determine crime trends and is for informational purposes only.***

Residential Burglary Calls for Service	45
Auto Burglary Calls for Service	60
Commercial Burglary Calls for Service	23
Commercial Robberies Call for Service	10
Carjacking Calls for Service	0
Robbery to an Individual Calls for Service	5
Stolen Vehicle Calls for Service	38 +3W
Robbery to a Residence	0
Shots Fired Calls	91

This month there were 5 guns stolen as a result of auto burglary. While any gun stolen is bad, this is a better number than we have seen in the past few months. Please remember to be diligent in protection of your firearms. I would like nothing more than to have a goal to see a month where no weapons of any kind are taken.

## **CRIME PREVENTION:**

Today (Feb 3<sup>rd</sup>), we are currently interviewing candidates for the Crime Prevention Specialist position. I am hoping this coming meeting I will be able to share with all of you who this person will be. Then perhaps for next meeting coming up in March, we can have a quick presentation as a meet and greet so all of you can put a face to the name.

As always, take care of yourselves and each other. See you all soon.

Jimmy Collins  
Commander, Foothills Area Command