APD Welcomes Mike Geier as Interim Police Chief

Mayor Tim Keller appointed Michael (Mike) James Geier as APD’s Interim Chief of Police. Chief Geier retired from APD in April 2014 and then took on the position of Chief of Police with the Rio Rancho Police Department.

During his 43 plus year career in law enforcement, Chief Geier received several awards and commendations. He was Officer of the Year four different times with two police departments. Chief Geier was honored by the New Mexico Crime Victim’s Reparation Commission for his work at APD’s Family Advocacy Center (FAC). In 2010, he was recognized as Hero of the Year by The Domestic Violence Resource Center. Chief Geier also received the Public Service Award in 2013 from the Dialogue Institute of the Southwest.

Chief Geier earned an Associate’s Degree in Law Enforcement, a Bachelor’s Degree in Applied Behavioral Science, and a Master’s of Arts Degree in Administration of Criminal Justice. He is a published author of police training articles, including a recent research study he co-authored entitled, Albuquerque Police Department Operation Hot Spot Method and Evaluation. Geier has also won several gold, silver and bronze medals during international competition at six World Police and Fire Games.

Harold Medina and Roger Banez Named as Deputy Chiefs

Mayor Tim Keller named Harold Medina and Roger Banez as APD’s Deputy Chiefs. Both Medina and Banez have 20 years of experience in law enforcement, including time at APD. Deputy Chief Medina most recently served the Pueblo of Laguna Police Department as the Chief of Police. After serving 20 years, Medina retired from APD as a Commander. Deputy Chief Medina received a Bachelor’s Degree with a double major in Biology and Criminology from the University of New Mexico.

Deputy Chief Banez has 24 years of experience in law enforcement. While at APD, Banez served as Commander of the Southwest Area Command. He also served as APD’s Director of Homeland Security and oversaw the Office of Emergency Management. Banez is a retired Lieutenant Colonel of the United States Army with over 24 years as a commissioned military officer. Deputy Chief Banez received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology from the University of Hawaii at Manoa and his Master of Arts Degree from the University of Phoenix.

Medina and Banez will join Deputy Chief Eric Garcia and Acting Deputy Chief Arturo Gonzales as APD’s leadership team.
#WeSeeYou

Northeast Area Command Participates in the Inez Elementary School Public Service Appreciation Day
Southeast Area Command Officers Attend Neighborhood Association Meeting

D. Small, a Southeast Area Command Police and Communities Together (PACT) officer made a presentation to the San Pedro Neighborhood Association’s Crime Free Collaboration. The event was organized by the Office of Neighborhood Coordination whereas numerous neighborhood association representatives attended along with Councilors Diane Gibson and Pat Davis.

Southeast Area Command PACT Team Participates in Clean-Up Day

The Highland Business Alliance sponsored a clean-up day in the area of San Mateo to Washington and Silver to Copper. City Councilman Pat Davis and APD’s Southeast Police and Communities Together (PACT) team along with over fifty volunteers assisted in this initiative to clean-up the community.
Foothills Area Command Officers Volunteer at a Local School

Officers from the Foothills Area Command served a Thanksgiving meal to students at Apache Elementary School.

Southwest Area Commander Michelle Campbell Receives “Angel Award”

The Southwest Alamosa Neighborhood Association honored Commander Michelle Campbell for her work in the community by recognizing her with an “Angel Award”. The presentation was made during a neighborhood association potluck meeting.

Northwest Area Command Attends Holiday Luncheon

Police and Communities Together (PACT) Lieutenant S. Norris, Sergeant M. Dietzel and Crime Prevention Specialist S. Martinez-Pino attended a Taylor Ranch Neighborhood Association Meeting. APD personnel discussed ways to better communicate with neighborhood associations.
#WeSeeYou

APD Supports Toys For Tots

Valley Area Command and Real Time Crime Center staff collected donations for Toys for Tots and delivered them to the United States Marine Corps for distribution. In addition, APD hosted a phone bank along with KRQE and FOX NM’s Kristen Currie. Toys for Tots collects unwrapped donations for distribution to children whose families may be experiencing economic difficulties.

Telecommunications Operators Honored by the Mayor as Albuquerque’s Heroes

Telecommunication Operators Angela Salas and Samantha Sanchez were honored for their efforts in uncovering a medical emergency on a call and route lifesaving services. In September, Salas and Sanchez received a 911 call but nothing could be heard on the other end. Sanchez, with Salas’ guidance, began asking the caller questions in an attempt to find out if the individual needed police or rescue. Salas quickly recognized that the caller sounded as though they were having difficulty breathing. Salas advised Sanchez to ask the caller if help was needed and to indicate “yes” by pressing a button on the phone. The caller responded by pressing a button. Salas continued quickly coaching Sanchez by having her ask a series of yes or no questions allowing the caller to press the buttons on her telephone. The 911 operators immediately entered a priority one call for police response due to the unknown nature of the situation, and transferred the call over to the Albuquerque Fire Department (AFD). When officers arrived on scene at the caller’s location, they found the woman in need of immediate medical attention and quickly transported her to the hospital.
Uniformed Officer of the Month
Charles Sanchez
Officer Charles Sanchez began his career with APD in November 2010 and is currently assigned to Team Five in the Foothills Area Command. While assisting another area command with an incident, Officer Sanchez conducted and investigation and made an arrest and subsequently located narcotics on the subject. In another incident, he assisted the Albuquerque Fire Department with unruly subjects on scene.

Non-Uniformed Officer of the Month
Detective Andrew Jaramillo
Detective Andrew Jaramillo began his career with APD in March 2008 and is currently assigned to the Valley Area Command, Impact Unit. Detective Jaramillo responded to a priority one shots fired call. Officers and Impact detectives quickly established a perimeter around the area. After the suspects were detained, detectives executed a search warrant where they found stolen merchandise and a large quantity of a controlled substance.

Team of the Month
Crisis Intervention Unit (CIU)

Civilian of the Month
Madeline Whiteley
Madeline “Leah” Whiteley began her career with APD in 1975 and is currently a Telecommunicator II in the Communications Division. Her number one priority has always been officer safety. Her work ethic, extensive knowledge of the department along with her calm demeanor, which exudes professionalism and the true definition of a dispatcher.
**Notable Tweets**

Follow us for more great stories and updates!

@ABQPOLICE

Albuquerque Police Department

Meet Diesel. He’s one of our @ABQSunport K9s. "Work!? I do this job for treats!"

Officers discussing the dangers of drugs and their role as public safety servants at St. Therese Catholic School this week.

Thank you to all of our Veterans who have served & continue to serve both their country and their community.