



Foothills CPC: March 2021 Newsletter

Violence! It's an ugly word. Victims come from every walk of life and know how ugly the consequences can be. Violent incidents generate the most compelling headlines each day. Our own APD has two core responses to violent incidents and threats. Investigation leading to arrest and indictment is the one most familiar. The other involves prevention. Preventive action is earning high marks nationally for our APD, though it's new to most of us. Join us Monday – March 8th – at 6:00 for a lively discussion of both sides of this law-enforcement challenge (there is a registration link down below).

Most of us – thankfully – aren't ever directly involved in a violent incident. No one wants to be the victim, and few wish to inflict harm on others. But, situations arise, and preparation may be the best defense for us. Here's a little of what I've learned from experts:

Defense against one form of violence is available to all of us, and it is free of cost. It even pays dividends. Road rage makes no one better and improves no life. Rage imperils both the object of the anger, the person who is out of control, and all those who are in the vicinity. Experts say it is largely preventable; our action can make our day go more smoothly and pay many dividends.

Some of our fellow drivers set out each day seething with fear, anxiety, and outright anger, and some of them are armed and unstable enough to use deadly force to counter insult, whether it be real or imagined. Rage usually doesn't escalate to deadly force, but it always has an impact. The victim, even if she escapes without physical injury, is unsettled, and knows how close disaster came to everyone in their car.

How to prevent a rage incident? Experts say that recognition and preparation are key. Recognize that some percentage of those we share the road with are angry and on a hair trigger. Understand that we cannot change or improve them, no matter what we do. We cannot "fix" others. Best response to the careless, insulting, or downright aggressive behavior of others is to prepare in advance. To determine that we will not respond in kind. I'm reminded of a favorite choir director who often responded to catastrophic error with a gentle smile and a "Well, wasn't that interesting." If we can learn to apply a neutral or sympathetic response to aggression, we'll be miles ahead. Giving space to the person acting badly will also help.

We won't be late because of our understanding and prevention, and we need to consider the alternatives. Responding with anger will act as a corrosive on our own life, and on all those around us – most especially on children. If an incident seems to be escalating, turning aside, into a grocery parking lot, gas station, or other busy location for a few minutes won't ruin your day, but a confrontation will.

Giving space on the road. Giving way in the grocery or other venue. Remembering what we can truly control and sticking with our pre-determined response is a resolution worth the effort. I'm not an expert but know that my regular practice of expert recommendations will make my life better. Be safe out there!

Video recordings of our webinars have been made. The question is asked, "Where are they?" The answer is that they aren't yet readily accessible. We are still working toward the goal of having all CPC information in one place, but that's not yet been realized. For everything that is available, please use this link: [Community Policing Councils – City of Albuquerque \(cabq.gov\)](https://cabq.gov) . Copy and paste it into your web browser address window and you'll access everything that we have.

Kelly Mensah, our still-new CPC Administrator/Liaison has been interviewing to bring an assistant on-board. As Kelly settles into this new role and we welcome additional assistance, we'll see many improvements in our ability to support communications from the community to our police, and vice-versa. Kelly isn't just "new to the job"; the "job" itself is brand new. We've always used folks who – however highly skilled and motivated they were – were "on loan" from APD, and their first duty was to the executive they were assigned to. The new ordinance (O-20-27) enacted last Fall, provides a new and stable framework for CPC operations. It's a new situation for us all, and we are working hard to make sure that all aspects are implemented and operating smoothly.

Happy Spring! We hope you'll be able to join us next Monday for our March webinar. There's still time to register. Just copy and paste this link to your browser address window:

https://cabq.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_vwE9fgZOSv2QuhI7olHbdg

Be well and stay as safe as you can. Commander Collins's Foothills Command update for February is just below.

For the Foothills CPC,

Bob Carleton



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February 2021

Greetings everyone,

I hope this finds everyone well and all of you are having a great year so far.

CADS:

The table below contains the calls for service in the specific call category. These numbers are from the month of February 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	108
Auto Burglary Calls for Service	57
Commercial Burglary Calls for Service	22
Commercial Robberies Call for Service	20
Carjacking Calls for Service	3

Robbery to an Individual Calls for Service	5
Stolen Vehicle Calls for Service	45
Robbery to a Residence	0
Shots Fired Calls	36

This month there were 11 guns stolen as a result of auto burglary. This is an increase compared to last month. Stay vigilant on this as it is a way to help reduce gun violence issues.

SERGEANTS:

I am happy to report the Foothills acquired three brand new sergeants. Each watch was down one sergeant due to internal transfers, which forced us to use acting sergeants to meet the 8:1 ratio. The acting sergeants did an excellent job plugging that gap and I am proud of them for stepping up to help with the supervision of the teams. As it stands now there is a sergeant (we call them hard-strippers) for each team. I look forward to see how each one develops throughout the remainder of this bid.

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

Best Wishes,

Jimmy Collins
Commander, Foothills Area Command