

Albuquerque Police Department Monthly Report August 2010

MO...E COMMUNITY SUBSTATION



Richard J. Berry,
Mayor



Raymond D. Schultz,
Chief of Police

2010 National Night Out

APD Notables...

Southeast Area Command...

- Southeast Officer Appreciation Day was celebrated on August 11. Command staff, the APOA, Chaplin Unit, and other community organizers participated to make it another successful event.
- Command staff and crime prevention staff participated in the National Night Out program on August 3, contacting various neighborhood associations throughout the area command.
- The Southeast Impact team made 81 self-initiated arrests and cleared 57 cases for the month. Throughout the month, the team routinely established surveillance and utilized Crime Stoppers tips to apprehend fugitives.
- Day shift officers focused on traffic enforcement for the new school year especially in school zones around Beat 335. Officer M. Smith conducted a truancy tactical plan and referred 11 juveniles to Juvenile Probation. Two adults were referred to district court.
- Swing shift officers continued to focus on quality of life enforcement, including warrant round ups, pedestrian traffic in volume areas, transient problems, and city bus violations.
- Graveyard officers Lorenzo Garcia, Michele English, Mel Acata, Chris Daniel, and Lt. Callaghan adjusted their hours to attend the National Night Out event at four different locations (1522 Stanford NE, 208 Quincy NE, 700 Richmond SE, and 304 Fontana NE). Officer Acata was also officer of the month for August.

Foothills Area Command...

- Watch I officers conducted a week long tactical plan that focused on traffic issues on Candelaria Road, east of Tramway. The tactical plan was enacted in response to neighborhood complaints of speeding in the area. Officers issued 50 citations.
- Officers Hetes and Walck arrested a man for multiple warrants from a Crime Stoppers tip. The man was also a property crimes Top Five offender.
- Detective Lund was able to solve a very complicated attempted murder/murder for hire case with the assistance of Officer Simmons. He was able to identify all four offenders and obtain arrest warrants for the same. With the assistance of the entire Impact team he was able

to place them into custody. For his actions Detective Lund's name was submitted for the Chief's Coffee cup award. Officer Simmons was able to obtain essential suspect information and information on the plot that was not known at the time of the original incident. Due to her actions, she was nominated for the Uniformed Officer of the Month award.

- Team 2 Bike Officers Verbeck and Miranda conducted a tactical plan in the area of Singing Arrow Park and commercial areas near the park to reduce panhandling and trespassing.
- Detective Gonterman initiated a tactical plan after 17 auto burglaries occurred in one night during the graveyard shift. Two suspects were placed into custody as a result of the plan. After executing a search warrant, numerous stolen property including computers, hard drives and other computer components were recovered. The computers and hard drives were turned over to the lab for examination.
- Detective Gonterman also recovered a wedding ring valued at \$7,000 using the pawnshop database. A warrant was issued for the suspect who took the ring. For the outstanding detective work conducted by Detective Gonterman, she was nominated for Detective of the Month.
- Watch III Officers Dave Ritchie and Mikal Monette responded to a welfare check at a northeast residence on August 19. The caller told them the resident was a doctor and had not shown up for work or called in. Upon arriving at the residence the officers observed the owner's truck parked awkwardly and there was no answer at the door. Officers Monette and Ritchie checked the back of the house and observed the resident inside and barely conscious. As officers entered the residence, he was observed making grabbing movements towards a shotgun nearby. During the search, 24 marijuana plants, approximately 40 firearms, nearly 10,000 cartridges, and black tar heroin were recovered by narcotics detectives.

Valley Area Command...

- All teams conducted field briefings at different locations around the area command, concentrating on those areas that command staff have received complaints from citizens advising of criminal activity.
- Command staff have increased scheduled patrols throughout Old Town in an attempt to show a

greater presence. The Horse Mounted Unit will also spend some time in Old Town.

- Officer Roberto conducted a traffic stop which in turn netted the recovery of over \$4,000 worth of computer equipment stolen from APS.
- The Valley Impact Team cleared 22 cases by arrest and interviewed 31 people. They continued to work a tactical plan in the Old Town area due to high incidents involving narcotics and thefts in an area frequented by tourists.
- Officer Nelson received a commendation for his off duty actions at a residential burglary call. His actions resulted in three offenders being arrested.
- Officers Tosta and Wheeler did a great job of helping an infant who was being neglected by his mother who was highly intoxicated. They cleaned the baby up and turned him over to CYFD to protect him.
- After repeated explanations to the organizers about permits being required, three organizers of a feeding program were arrested after refusing to comply.
- The cruiser tactical plan continued to yield positive results. Valley officers have written more than 1,600 traffic citations and have made 44 arrests so far this year.

Southwest Area Command...

- Team 8 officers responded to a shooting at a Central Avenue location. Officers were able to identify the shooter and determine that the incident was gang-related. Gang detectives were called and an arrest warrant was issued.
- Officer Barnard initiated a traffic stop and found that the vehicle contained several stolen items. The items were taken from several auto burglaries. Both occupants of the vehicle were arrested.
- Watch II officers had a busy month taking five suspects burglars into custody. In the first incident, four suspects were taken into custody at 98th & Amole Mesa. One of the suspects was tied to at least eight burglaries.
- All three officer squads completed at least two business contacts during the month. The contacts required the officer to identify and propose a solution for any problems that were brought to their attention by the businesses.
- On August 23rd, Watch III officers Steve Arias and Victor Olvera were dispatched to a local retailer in response to a male who was being

held against his will, after being smuggled across the border by a male and female for money. The male apparently could not come up with the second half of the money they agreed to (\$2,500), so the male and female took him at gunpoint and told him they would kill him if he did not pay them. Officers Arias and Olvera arrived on the scene and were able to locate the vehicle he was being held in and took both subjects into custody. Both subjects were armed at the time. Detectives were called to the scene where the offenders were booked for extortion, robbery, kidnapping, and child abuse due to the female having a young child in the vehicle with them at the time of the offenses.

- Officer David Nix responded to a drive by shooting at a residential location. Officer Nix stayed in the area and the offenders returned in a different vehicle. Officer Nix was able to take the offenders into custody, and booked them. Nix executed a search warrant on the vehicle the following day.

Northwest Area Command...

- All three graveyard squads conducted tactical plans in the area command's apartment complexes that were on the top ten calls for service list. Several contacts were made with suspicious individuals and numerous parking citations were issued. All squads continued to heavily enforce traffic issues and are actively monitoring city parks.
- Watch I officers responded to 1,829 calls for service and initiated 903 on-site activities. The calls resulted in 47 felony arrests, 54 misdemeanor arrests and 23 misdemeanor citations. Watch I completed 33 domestic violence arrests, 33 DWI arrests and issued 1,026 moving citations.
- Watch II officers conducted their annual school zone traffic tactical plan in and around every school in the area command. In addition to the assistance provided to the crossing guard function, all watch units were assigned responsibility for monitoring traffic issues in and around schools. Over 900 traffic citations were issued throughout the area command for various violations. Response from the school communities was very positive and highly appreciated.
- Watch II officers responded to 1,502 calls for service and initiated 436 on-site activities. The calls resulted in 27 felony arrests, 78

misdemeanor arrests and 26 misdemeanor citations were issued. Watch II completed 13 domestic violence arrests, one DWI arrest and 914 moving citations issued.

- Pete Gelabert, the Northwest Area Command's Crime Prevention Specialist, provided "Violence in the Workplace" seminars at various locations within the command at the request of business owners and managers.
- Watch III officers continued to spearhead an ongoing area command "quality of life" tactical operation focused on issues in and around residential neighborhoods. Items addressed were illegally parked vehicles, ill-kept public areas, graffiti, vagrancy and other problems which diminish the quality of neighborhoods was the focus.
- Along with the numerous calls for service answered by Watch III, officers continued to conduct highly productive traffic plans in areas identified by residents and neighborhood associations as being problematic and unsafe. A recent complaint about narcotics sales and activity was identified, and generated a tactical operation by Team 4 that resulted in 19 traffic stops and two arrests.
- Watch III officers responded to 2,584 calls for service and initiated 525 on-site activities. The calls resulted in 77 felony arrests, 98 misdemeanor arrests and 81 misdemeanor citations. Watch III completed 18 domestic violence arrests, seven DWI arrests and issued 1,119 moving citations.
- The Northwest Area Command's Impact Team continued the burglary POPTRAC, focusing on beats 635-639 due to recent crime statistic data. Additionally, the Northwest Skate Park was placed under surveillance after a suspect who has been arrested for property crimes was identified in the area. Impact Team detectives conducted an investigation of a counterfeiter who was producing \$100 bills and had in his possession numerous weapons. The offender was taken into custody by the Team with the assistance of U.S. Secret Service personnel.

Northeast Area Command...

- Officer Andrew Cook investigated a forgery call at a local department store. Through his investigation, Officer Cook learned that a female suspect had obtained a male's personal information by altering and submitting a postal change of address form. Officer Cook obtained

a search and arrest warrant and took the female into custody. He was able to recover several computers used in the crime as well as numerous pieces of mail belonging to other individuals. He then coordinated with the US Postal Inspector to return the mail and possibly conduct a federal investigation.

- Officer Drobik played an instrumental part in removing a sexual predator from the streets of Albuquerque. On August 12, Officer Drobik responded to a local retailer in response to a complaint about a middle-aged male looking under the occupied stalls in the women's bathroom. Officer Drobik was able to obtain the license plate number of the suspect's vehicle. Officer Drobik contacted the Rio Rancho Police Department and learned that Rio Rancho had several similar cases (12 misdemeanor and two felonies) with a subject matching the same description. The man was found to have two outstanding warrants from Tucumcari and Albuquerque for voyeurism. The man was also on probation for related sexual offenses, and had a criminal history spanning several states, including Georgia and Texas. Officer Drobik coordinated with the Child Exploitation Unit and the Rio Rancho Police Department to apprehend the man. The suspect was put under surveillance for 48 hours, was located and taken into custody after a short foot chase. Due to the diligent efforts set forth by Officer Drobik, a dangerous sexual predator was removed from the streets of Albuquerque. After the suspect's arrest and resulting intense media coverage that the case garnered, more victims came forward and the Rio Rancho Police Department was able to file felony charges against him.
- The Northeast Area Command has approximately 12 complex managers who have committed to attending the Apartment Connect Monthly Meeting as well as posting on the Apartment Connect Site.

Scientific Evidence Division...

- The Identification Unit processed 2,068 fingerprints into the AFIS and processed 1,585 arrests into the TIBURON Criminal History Record during normal shift operations.
- The Disposition Unit processed 25 court dispositions, 33 employment, 29 evidence and 90 FBI background requests.
- The Evidence Unit received over 4,002 evidence items in August. Of those, 706 items were

disposed, 238 notification letters were sent to property owners and 294 items were returned to owners.

Communications Division...

- The APD 911 Communications Center staff answered over 69,000 incoming 911 and 242-COPS calls in August. There were 24,961 911 calls and 44,072 242-COPS calls. 911 Operators answered 95.83% of the 911 calls within 10 seconds (national standard is 90%, APD standard is 92.5%); operators also answered 98.23% of the 242-COPS calls within 30 seconds (APD goal is 90% answered within 30 seconds).
- A Communications employee was recognized as the August APD Civilian employee of the month for being our “go to” person on IT related issues and for his trouble shooting abilities. Another Communications off-duty employee was honored as the Mayor’s Friday’s Hero of the week recipient for his efforts in apprehending a shoplifter and providing the juvenile a meal.
- The Communications Center staff held a “Picnic in the Parking lot” event as an employee appreciation day. The picnic was a success largely in part to the generosity of various vendors who either donated or provided goods/services at discounted prices. The APD horse patrol, APOA staff who barbecued hot dogs and burgers, two motor units, Fire Station 14 and finally the great work provided by the Communications Center organizers made the event a huge success. A big thank you to all involved.
- A new phone and radio recording system was installed to provide additional redundancy of the recording systems.

Planning and Policy Division...

- Division staff have begun to meet with furniture suppliers to select appropriate furnishings for the Sixth Area Command. The Chief approved the materials board supplied by the building’s architects that depict all of the building’s finishes.
- Construction on the new facility continued in August. Items included roofing on the south high bay; drywall at the north end of building; construction of photovoltaic array footings; electrical rough-in around the south half of the building; concrete floor polishing; and installation of the storefront at the public entry.

Technical Services Division...

- The Technical Services Unit received 228 Help Desk tickets through 768-2930 telephone calls. Mission critical systems (e.g., Tiburon, AFIS) are worked immediately; other tickets are worked First-In-First-Out. Twenty-four tickets remained in the queue at month end. Tiburon Mobile Communications training (MOE) was conducted at the Academy in preparation for the upgrade which is scheduled for December. Officers in the Valley Area Command continue testing the lapel camera. Technology clean up and salvage operations at the Crime Lab and Communications Center were initiated this month.

Prisoner Transport Unit...

- In August, the Prisoner Transport Unit processed 1,832 prisoners through the Prisoner Transport Center. The Albuquerque Police Department arrested 1,533 prisoners and other agencies arrested 299 prisoners. The Prisoner Transport Unit made 206 trips to MDC and accepted 90 walk-in prisoners at MDC.
- The savings in hours and fuel costs for the month of August was \$50,132.18

Strategic Support Division...

- In August, there were 110 incidents submitted on the CONNECT website by a combination of business partners and APD personnel regarding criminal activity during the month. Of these alerts, 41 were from ARAPA partners; 11 were from Hospitality Partners; 28 were by FISOA partners; seven by CICA Partners; 14 by Apartment Partners; one by Downtown Area Partners; seven by North I-25 Partners; and one by Commercial Property partners.
- In August, 40 new registration requests were received for the various areas contained in the CONNECT website. CONNECT had a total of 1,876 visitors in 31 days for an average of 60.516 visitors per day.
- The Crime Analysis Unit (CSU) continues to update the December through August Most Wanted Property crime offenders that have been arrested each week. The updated information is disseminated to all members of the CONNECT website so that partners are kept updated on the status of property crime offenders.
- The CSU provided support, analysis, and mapping to the Pawn Shop and Burglary Units, providing a list of suspects and burglars arrested

since January to store in their database in order to match property stolen.

Traffic Division...

- The Traffic Unit issued 2,090 citations and investigated one fatal accident in August.
- The DWI Unit arrested 145 people for driving while intoxicated.
- The Seizure Unit confiscated 225 vehicles in August.
- On August 11, Air1 arrived in the area of southbound Interstate 25 and Alameda in response to a hit and run accident. According to witnesses, a offender fled west on foot from the scene. Utilizing the FLIR, Air1 located a subject in the area. The subject appeared to be on a cell phone and was standing near the parking lot to the Ramada Hotel. Air1 directed units to the subject. As the units arrived, the subject fled on foot. Air1 directed units to the subject and he was detained inside of the hotel. Units advised the subject possessed cocaine and he also attempted to throw it during the foot chase. The subject was also found to be driving while intoxicated.
- Also on August 11, Air1 responded to a suspicious vehicle in the area of 4th and Candalaria. Reports stated that a female and male subject were in a burgundy PT Cruiser-style vehicle with flat tires and that they had dropped several children off at the intersection and then left the area. Air1 arrived, and after a short FLIR search of the area, the vehicle was located near 7th and Fitzgerald. Air1 directed units to the vehicle and contacted the subjects. The female was found to be driving while intoxicated and was booked.

Special Operations Division...

- SWAT spent much of August assisting U.S. Marshals with a border operation. SWAT was activated for a total of 38 hours in August.
- The K-9 Unit conducted 55 building searches and 10 area searches.
- The APD Bomb Squad responded on August 4 to the Albuquerque International Airport in response to calls by the FBI, Aviation police and TSA. The Squad was requested because a passenger was suspected of trying to light matches onboard a plane. According to other passengers the suspect passenger was also acting suspicious. The Squad went to the tarmac and searched the plane, the passenger and his

belongings. Negative explosives or IED's were located.

- The Horse Mounted Unit conducted a 4H Sensory Clinic on August 3. The Bernalillo County 4H requested the Mounted Unit to conduct a basic horse sensory clinic to work with the young riders in basic desensitization. The clinic was conducted at the Bernalillo County Sheriff's Posse arena.
- On July 13 during a fire in the Embudo Canyon, horses were called to ride into the canyon to clear the area of any civilians and to scour the area for possible offenders. The majority of the canyon is not accessible by motor vehicle, making it a perfect area for horses to traverse.

Investigations Bureau...

- The Special Investigations Division's Intel Unit worked with the Garmin Company to unlock a GPS unit seized from a prolific car thief, allowing the Unit to locate seven stolen vehicles.
- ROP Unit detectives located and apprehended two different bank robbers within minutes of each committing the crime. Detectives were able to recover all of the money and a gun used during one of the heists.
- The Gang Unit arrested several gang members for attempted murder and receiving/transferring stolen vehicles. The Unit assisted two Phoenix homicide detectives by locating a homicide suspect from the Phoenix area in Albuquerque.
- The Vice Unit conducted undercover operations and surveillance that resulted in over 37 misdemeanor arrests. The Unit conducted an Internet operation that resulted in six misdemeanor arrests, two felony arrests and the confiscation of three firearms.
- Westside Narcotics wrote and executed seven search warrants and conducted six buy/bust operations that resulted in 18 felony arrests. During the operations, Westside detectives seized 67 grams of cocaine, 74 grams of heroin, 75 grams of prescription medications and over 15 pounds of marijuana. Detectives also responded to a complaint at a local high school of two seniors who were selling marijuana. Their subsequent arrests resulted in their long-term suspension from school.
- Eastside Narcotics detectives wrote and executed 11 search warrants and conducted ten buy/bust operations, resulting in 25 felony arrests. During the operations, Eastside detectives seized nine grams of methamphetamine, 30 grams of

cocaine, 42 grams of heroin, and ten pounds of marijuana. Eastside detectives also assisted FSB units with a residence that contained 39 firearms, 10,000 rounds of ammunition, two ounces of heroin, three pounds of marijuana, and 30 live marijuana plants.

- The Homicide Unit responded to seven violent crime call-outs in August.
- The Armed Robbery Unit cleared 29 cases and submitted 17 cases to the District Attorney's office for prosecution. The Unit completed seven felony arrests.
- The Sex Crimes Unit responded to 12 sex crimes call-outs, cleared 30 cases, and sent 12 cases to the District Attorney's office for prosecution.
- The FASTT Unit cleared 20 cases in August, sending 13 cases to the District Attorney's office for prosecution.
- The Missing Persons/Cold Case Homicide Unit received 40 missing persons reports in August. The Unit cleared 29 cases.
- The CIT/COAST Unit conducted 43 threat assessments, 12 home visits, assisted 415 individuals and made 392 referrals for social services.
- The Crimes Against Children Unit received 646 referrals for review; the Unit cleared 97 cases and sent 21 cases to the District Attorney's office for prosecution.
- The Child Exploitation Detail cleared 21 cases and sent one case to the District Attorney's office for prosecution.
- The Sex Offender Registration Detail conducted 45 verifications and 11 hours of surveillance in August.
- The Auto Theft/Wrecker Services Unit closed 25 cases by arrest and 75 other cases for various reasons. The total value of property recovered in August was \$483,317. The Unit conducted a VIN etching event at 111 Coors NW. 139 vehicles were etched during the event.
- The White Collar Crimes Unit cleared 11 cases, representing about \$48,615 in losses to their victims.
- The Burglary Unit closed 21 cases by arrest and a total of 53 cases for other reasons.

Records Section...

- The Central Records Unit scanned 92,752 pages of records in August, and made 7,681 FileNet entries.
- The Public Information Unit received 2,552 calls in July.

Trend Analysts





