

# ***Albuquerque Police Department Monthly Report March 2009***



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Mayor



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## **APD Notables...**

### **Southeast Area Command...**

- In March, Southeast officers responded to 10,860 calls for service, wrote 2,262 reports, and made 1,284 arrests.
- The area command focused on traffic tac plans during the month of March, in response to numerous complaints received by citizens through visits to the substation, via email and phone. Southeast officers wrote 3,915 moving citations and 220 parking citations.
- The Southeast Criminal Nuisance Abatement Unit (CNAU) received a referral from a citizen regarding suspicious activity and the dilapidated state of a nearby property. Detectives from the unit arrived on scene and began a property check of the apartment complex. Detectives discovered that one of the apartments was housing several suspects, including a SNM gang member with multiple felony warrants. The men were taking advantage of an elderly man under hospice care. The subjects were using heroin in the apartment. In another apartment, the detectives discovered an 18-year old man who was trafficking drugs. This subject and his cohorts were all found to be members of the 18th Street gang. After arrests were made for the felonious criminal activity, two of the four properties were posted substandard based on the condition of the apartments and suspected drug contamination. Detectives from the CNAU were able to work with medical staff at UNMH to provide secure, in-patient assistance for the elderly hospice patient so that he would be able to receive treatment in safe and sanitary conditions.

### **Foothills Area Command...**

- Field briefings were held throughout the area command to increase police presence in response to burglaries and auto thefts in residential areas. The graveyard shift conducted several tac plans that focused on traffic enforcement at various points along Montgomery, Tramway and Eubank. The plans resulted in several citations, towed vehicles and an arrest for DWI.
- Dayshift officers continued monitoring rush hour traffic and issuing citations. Several tac plans were conducted, focusing on traffic enforcement, city park enforcement and homeless outreach.

Most of the tac plans were in response to requests from neighborhood associations within the area command. Watch II officers issued 698 moving citations, arrested 146 subjects (45 for felonies), and conducted 910 quality of life enforcement and referrals.

- Watch III officers continued to implement the Business Relationship Improvement Plan with businesses throughout the command. Several tac plans were conducted, including several that specifically targeted traffic at nearby intersections. A field briefing and tac plan was conducted at McCollum Elementary School to improve relations with the students and administration as well as respond to community complaints of suspicious activity at the school. Watch III officers issued 731 moving citations, arrested 181 subjects (29 for felonies), and conducted 1,069 quality of life enforcement and referrals.

### **Valley Area Command...**

- Dayshift officers conducted a tac plan in the Downtown area in response to complaints of homeless persons involved in criminal activity. The tac plan resulted in 18 panhandling citations, 12 drinking in public citations, and 6 criminal trespass citations.
- Dayshift officers conducted a tac plan on Tingley Drive to address speeding complaints. 148 traffic citations were issued and officers made 2 DWI arrests.
- Lt. S. O'Connell acted immediately on complaints from the Sawmill Neighborhood about a homeless camp near 18th St. and Bellamah. Lt. S. O'Connell located the camp and coordinated a response by COAST and the Clean City Team. The camp was cleaned out and the homeless individuals were referred to the appropriate services.
- Swing shift officers quickly responded to a suspicious medical call and were able to apprehend an offender who had just murdered his mother.
- Graveyard officers Jacobo and Sandy conducted a traffic stop which ultimately led to the discovery of a mobile meth lab.

### **Southwest Area Command...**

- Officers responded to a fight at Upper Pat Hurley Park where shots were fired by suspects as officers arrived. The fight later escalated into

a homicide. Officer A. Chavez was requested by the Violent Crimes Unit to brief the unit on the prior incident. The briefing helped the Violent Crimes Unit tie all of the unanswered questions, helping the investigation tremendously.

- Officers began a new tac plan to enforce the new state law pertaining to copper recyclers. During this latest effort, two recycling businesses were found to be noncompliant and were educated about the change of the law.
- Impact team detectives conducted a tac plan to identify and arrest any narcotics or prostitution offenders near west Central Avenue.

### **Northwest Area Command...**

- On March 14th, officers from Team 8 and Team 9 were dispatched to a northwest residence to respond to reports of a subject firing a gun inside of the residence. Officers arrived immediately, setting up a perimeter around the house. With the assistance of K-9 officers, officers were able to make announcements into the residence and the offender finally came out without further incident. Additional individuals were discovered inside of the residence, which created a more serious situation. Eventually, they were secured safely also. Further investigation yielded two additional rifles. All of the residents were taken into custody.
- The Northwest Impact Team conducted a burglary tac plan at a nearby housing development. Two offenders were observed breaking into a structure and were subsequently arrested by detectives during the commission of the crime. The criminals confessed to seven other related offenses.
- Officer Victor Trevino conducted a tac plan at two intersections after citizens identified the locations as dangerous. A total of 16 speeding citations and 15 stop sign violations were issued. Officer Trevino also issued 12 handicap parking citations.

### **Northwest Area Command...**

- On March 26, officers Glenn McGuire and Ed Burchell were dispatched to a local music store to respond to a larceny of several guitars. Due to their timely response and thorough investigation, they were able to apprehend the suspect and locate a second offender. With the aide of northeast impact detectives, they were able to recover all the stolen guitars, valued

at \$2,400. Both offenders were arrested and charged with felony larceny, felony receiving stolen property and conspiracy.

- Officers located a stolen SUV at a northeast residence. After officers checked the license plate, the vehicle was identified as having been carjacked in which a weapon had been utilized. Officers attempted to contact the driver as he pulled into a parking space at the apartment complex. Once the car was parked, the suspect fled on foot. During the chase, the offender re-entered the stolen vehicle and rammed the officer's patrol unit. The fleeing criminal was apprehended and was booked on aggravated battery on a police officer, aggravated assault on a police officer, possession of a controlled substance, receiving and transferring a stolen vehicle, criminal damage over \$1,000 and several felony warrants.
- Officers Ashley McDonnell, Travis Cochran, Josh Toma, Pete Silva and Isaac Maes responded to a shots fired call at a Northeast residence. The call was representative of a tac plan that was being conducted by Northeast graveyard shift officers in response to unknown offenders that were shooting at objects and parked cars. The activity escalated to occupied vehicles on the roadway. In response to the call, officers stopped a vehicle in the back of an apartment complex, detaining four subjects. Two handguns were recovered and all four subjects were arrested on appropriate charges. The investigation is ongoing.

### **Scientific Evidence Division...**

- In March, the Major Crime Scene Team responded to four call-outs.
- Along with regular duties, Criminalistics and Field Investigators, continue to go to the West Mesa and assist with the recovery efforts at the crime scene. The massive investigation has been labor-intensive for everyone involved.
- Over 4,356 evidence items were received, 3,789 items were disposed, 366 notification letters were sent to property owners and 368 items were returned to owners.

### **Communications Division...**

- A total of 97.52% of the 911 calls received in March were answered within 10 seconds. The national standard for answering 911 calls is 90%

of 911 calls answered within 10 seconds; the internal standard is 92.5%. 98.96% of 242-COPS calls were answered within 30 seconds.

- Members of the Emergency Communications Center attended the Cyberstalking Town Hall in March and participated with field personnel in the revision of APD pursuit policies. Staff attended regional 911 committee meetings.

**Planning & Policy Division...**

- The Division continued to pursue funding opportunities provided by federal stimulus funding proposals. The Division helped prepare one grant application for \$86,000 and a COPS hiring grant that may provide up to 20 additional officers for the department.
- The Inspections Unit traveled to Raleigh, NC to defend their reaccreditation status before the CALEA board. APD was successful, and received their sixth accreditation.

**Open Space Division...**

- Open Space Division officers conducted 250 city park welfare checks and 25 city pool checks.
- The Division participated in the Baker to Vegas race, representing APD for the fourth year in a row.
- Open Space officers located twelve illegal campsites in the open space areas around Albuquerque.

**Prisoner Transport Unit...**

- During the month of March, the Prisoner Transport Unit (PTU) processed 1,747 prisoners through the Prisoner Transport Center. APD arrested 1,255 prisoners and other agencies arrested 492 prisoners. The PTU made 234 trips to the MDC and accepted 246 walk-in prisoners at MDC.
- The PTU expanded its hours of service on Tuesdays. The Unit now operates from 1300 hours - 0600 hours.
- Through the operation of the PTU, APD saved \$32,565.92 in hours and fuel costs for the month of March.

**Records Section...**

- The Data Entry Unit completed APD Part I crime offense reports for December 2008.
- The Telephone Reporting Unit received 2,981 calls from citizens. Of the 2,981 calls, TRU wrote 632 reports, 181 supplemental reports and

assisted 1,140 citizens.

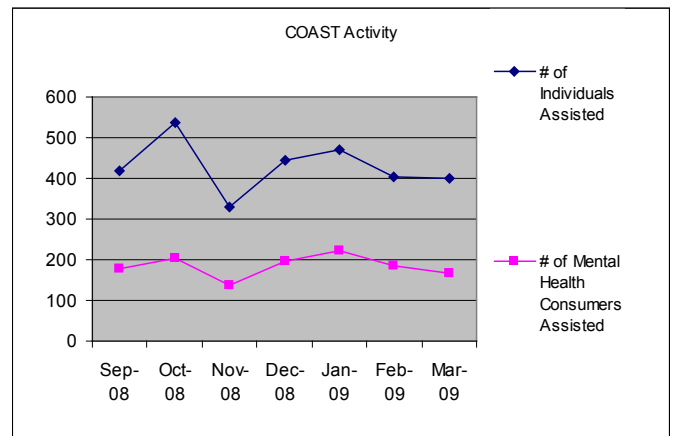
- The Uniform Crime Report Unit met the March 2009 deadline set by the FBI for 2008 UCR statistics.

**Professional Standards Division...**

- The Recruiting Unit received 247 interest cards in March.
- The Background Unit tested 113 candidates, moved 50 candidates to the background stage, and selected 8 candidates to attend the 103rd Academy Class.
- The Basic Training Unit continued to educate 38 cadets in the 102nd Cadet Class. The class is scheduled to graduate in May.
- The Tactical Range supported 566 personnel and participated in over 3,477 hours of training.

**Strategic Support Division...**

- As part of the Safe City Neighborhood Initiative Area, APD increased patrols and undercover officer operations. The officers issued many citations for drugs, panhandling, shop lifting, jay walking and traffic infractions. Over 300 traffic citations have been issued near Central and San Mateo in the last two months.
- Commanders from the Valley and Southeast areas commands and Karen Fischer attended a customer service training overview provided by ACVB to see if the curriculum can be adapted to address police officer's interactions with visitors to our community. Division staff will continue to work with ACVB as necessary to adapt the training for APD personnel.



**Metro Division...**

- Traffic officers conducted two tac plans in the Northeast area command in response to traffic

hotline complaints. Officer Cobos conducted a traffic stop which resulted in the seizure of \$13,000.

- Horse Mounted Unit officers collaborated with Open Space and AFD to develop a plan to patrol the bosque during the fire season. The bosque was divided into zones and training was conducted on how to spot illegal campsites and the resulting cleanup.
- The Bomb Squad responded to a northeast location in reference to a post blast. An improvised explosive device had been placed on a car and detonated, rupturing the bottom of the car and sending fragmentation outward. No one was hurt and evidence was collected.
- On March 4, SWAT assisted the ROP Unit with a barricaded male subject wanted on six felony warrants.
- The DWI Unit conducted three sobriety checkpoints, resulting in 56 DWI arrests and 7 seizures.
- The Seizure Unit checked in 211 vehicles in March. The Unit returned 80 vehicles.
- The Air Support Unit responded to a neighborhood park in reference to several subjects tagging electrical boxes. As the Air 1 helicopter arrived, numerous suspects scattered and ran in various directions. Air 1 was able to keep track of four suspects and directed responding units to their various locations. They were taken into custody and charged with misdemeanor criminal damage.

### **Central Investigations Bureau...**

- Valley Narcotics conducted an investigation of an individual selling powdered cocaine. Detectives were able to make several undercover purchases and obtained a search warrant for his vehicle. In the last undercover buy, detectives arrested the subject and served the warrant. Officers found an ounce of cocaine, one firearm, and a DEA identification patch in the car.
- Eastside Narcotics conducted a buy/bust operation in response to complaints from neighbors in the area about narcotics trafficking. Four felony arrests were made and a quantity of crack cocaine was seized.
- Westside Narcotics obtained a search warrant at a residential address as a result of several controlled purchases of narcotics. During the warrant service, two ounces of cocaine, a shotgun and \$2,800 was seized. The subject is a

convicted felon and the case is being considered for adoption by the ATF.

- The Criminal Intelligence Unit continued to assist with the "Memphis Boyz" investigation.
- The Gang Unit made 11 high-profile felony arrests of gang members for a variety of crimes including murder, aggravated battery with a deadly weapon, felon in possession of a firearm and armed robbery.
- The ROP Unit made 9 felony arrests during the month, including two robbery suspects.
- The Vice Unit partnered with Eastside Narcotics to assist with investigations that led to multiple search warrants. The two units conducted various street-level prostitution operations, resulting in two felony and ten misdemeanor arrests.
- The Homicide Unit responded to four violent crime call-outs in March.
- The Armed Robbery Unit cleared 52 cases and submitted 38 cases to the District Attorney's Office in March.
- The Sex Crimes Unit responded to 9 call-outs.
- The FASTT Unit cleared 4 cases this month and sent 4 cases to the DA's Office.
- The Auto Theft Unit and the Wrecker Services Unit recovered \$406,038 of stolen vehicles. The Auto Theft Unit held a VIN etching event in which 189 vehicles were marked.
- The White Collar Crimes Unit executed an arrest warrant on two fraud and forgery suspects. The pair stole the identity of an elderly victim who had recently died and wrote numerous checks on his account totalling \$12,000. Both subjects were arrested, and a third suspect's arrest is pending.
- The Crime Stoppers Unit received 128 tips in March. Fifteen suspects were arrested based on Crime Stoppers tips.

# Trend Analysts

