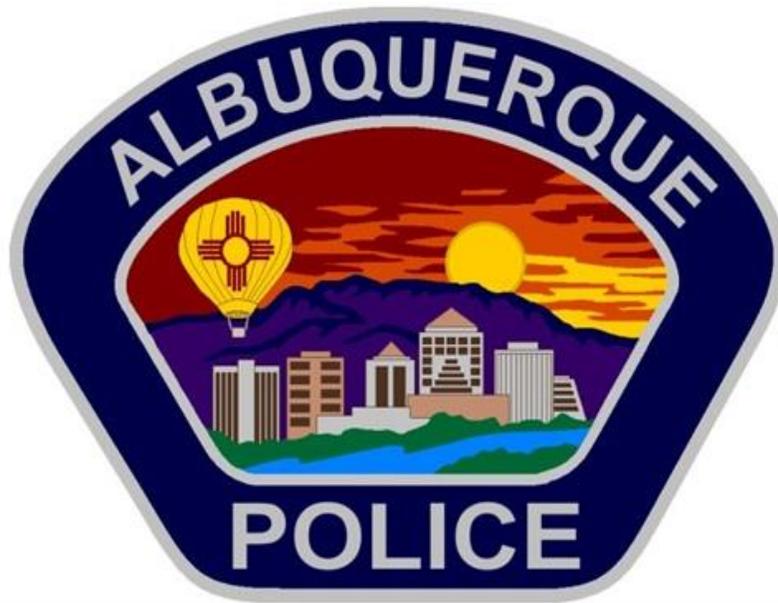


Northeast Area Command Strategic Community Engagement Plan



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NORTHEAST AREA COMMAND

Strategic Community Engagement Plan

I. NORTHEAST AREA COMMAND OUTREACH MISSION

Crime is most effectively reduced when the police department works directly with the community it serves to identify the causes of crime and develop solutions to that crime that the community largely buy into and are willing to help implement. The Albuquerque Police Department as a whole serves every member of the Albuquerque community however each area command serves a different geographic region of the city. As such, each area command contains its own unique makeup of community members whose desired ways to engage with the police department may differ.

The Northeast Area Command endeavors to tailor its outreach efforts to maximize public participation and information sharing. True information sharing is only accomplished when the flow of information goes both from the police department to the community and to the police department from the community. All community members must feel they have a conduit to connect with their police department since being “heard” as well as receiving timely information is central to the perceived legitimacy of the Area Command.

What follows is a strategic plan to accomplish this mission of community outreach and public information sharing.

II. CORE TENANTS OF THE NORTHEAST AREA COMMAND FOR INCREASING COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The Northeast Area Command will put forth a simple overarching expectation for every staff member, sworn or civilian: **Community outreach opportunities occur each and every time an officer responds to a call or contacts a member of the community; it is not limited to specific meetings or designated community events.** Therefore, the officers of the Northeast Area Command will operate under general principles, or core tenants, established toward this end:

1. Each call is an opportunity to advertise the professionalism and compassion of the area command officers. What is just another report, traffic citation, or arrest to the responding officer may be the only contact that citizen has had with the police in their life. The citizen is likely to have the perception of the police at least as heavily influenced by this contact than by anything they learn through a community meeting or news article.
2. Citizens are more likely to follow the law when they believe it is enforced fairly and consistently. Use “Can I?” and “Should I” questions when making discretionary decisions or informing citizens of what actions an officer might take.
 - a. Example 1: “I **can** legally tow this person’s car. **Should** I tow it under these circumstances?”

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- b. Example 2: “Let us inside or I will get a search warrant” **Can** I actually obtain a warrant under these circumstances or am I merely trying to deceive someone?
3. Actively work with victims of crime to address their complaints. Officers may not be able to take action at the moment but they should show interest and conduct follow-up where appropriate to ensure the victim’s crime concern is addressed.

III. OUTREACH OBJECTIVES

The following three objectives have been developed as keys to maximizing the amount of overall community engagement:

1. Increase the number of business coalitions and neighborhood groups or partnerships within the Area Command that actively attend meetings with the Area Command and/or invite area command officers to participate in their meetings.
 - The Area Command’s ability to address crime is directly affected by our ability to reach and work with as many groups as possible.
2. Create stronger and more widespread partnerships with the faith based community in the command.
 - Faith based organizations are helpful in allowing officers to connect with populations that may not be represented in neighborhood watches or other community groups.
3. Identify groups or even single individuals residing within the command who do not trust the police or want interaction with the police and find ways to ensure they are not only able to participate in engagement but to encourage them to become involved in engagement.
 - Reducing crime requires that victims both report crime and cooperate with the police. Too often officers respond to serious crimes only to have the individual victim refuse to provide information.

IV. PUBLIC INFORMATION SHARING

Through continuous interaction with our Community Policing Council as well as reviewing the results of the survey conducted by the community outreach section, the Northeast Area Command has developed the following information sharing plan:

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1. Information shared on a monthly basis:
 - a. Relevant and meaningful statistical information from the area command for that month with a side by side presentation of the previous two months:
 - i. Total Calls for Service in the Area Command as well as a breakdown of:
 1. Aggravated Assaults/Batteries
 2. Robberies
 3. Criminal Sexual Penetration
 4. Homicides
 5. Burglaries (broken down by type)
 6. Auto Thefts
 7. Shopliftings
 - ii. Police Use of Force Data:
 1. Total uses of reportable force by Northeast officers
 2. Rate of force per 1,000 calls for service as compared to other commands.
 3. Breakdown of Level 1, 2, and 3 force numbers
 - iii. Current break down of number of officers assigned to the Northeast by Watch (names will not be provided only the number of officers).
 - iv. Proactive policing activities:
 1. Patrol checks logged
 2. Field briefings held
 3. Traffic stops made area command wide
 - b. List of upcoming community engagement events for the next month along with contact information.
 - i. Business coalition meetings
 - ii. City Council District coalition meetings
 - iii. Specific Outreach events like “Coffee with a Cop”
 - iv. Cop on the Corner events (officer briefings citizens are welcomed to attend if they desire)
 - v. Northeast Community Policing Council events
 - vi. Faith-based meetings
2. Information Shared on a semi-annual basis:
 - a. The Independent Monitor’s most recent published report evaluating compliance levels with Court Approved Settlement Agreement (published November and May).
 - b. The completed NIBRS information vetted by the records department and submitted to the FBI as official uniform crime reporting statistics (when available for publication, usually July and January timeframe).

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3. Methods of Information Sharing

The information listed in numbers 1 and 2 above will be shared MONTHLY or SEMI-ANNUALLY as noted with Area Command community members via the following methods:

- a. Publication to the Area Command Website
- b. Emailed to the Community Policing Council president and presented verbally at the monthly meeting by the Area Commander, PRT Sergeant, or designee. The monthly meeting will also include time to answer questions regarding the data presented.
- c. Emailed to the master list of neighborhood, business, and faith-based groups maintained by the area command.
- d. Emailed by the officers to their assigned block captains.
- e. Printed and posted at the Northeast Area Command Substation as well as the Coronado Mall Substation. We will actively work with area business partners to ask they post hard copies on their public bulletin boards if willing.

4. Semi-Annual Meetings (January and July timeframes)

Twice per year the Area Command will work with the Office of Neighborhood Coordination, the Community Policing Council Liaison, and various other community group leaders to advertise a meeting open to all community members (in-person and/or via an online platform as current conditions allow) in order to present and allow for public input in the areas of:

- a. Current compliance levels with the Court Approved Settlement Agreement
- b. Any updates regarding requirements of the CASA or significant policy changes related to the CASA
- c. UCR crime numbers from the previous 6 months.
- d. Any areas of community concern.

5. Quarterly Newsletter

In the months of January, April, July, and October the area command will publish a newsletter containing topics as follows:

- a. Updates and comments from the Area Commander
- b. Updates and comments from the Community Policing Council
- c. Officer awards and/or officers of the month from the previous 3 months to include information about the awards and the officer themselves.
- d. Crime prevention tips
- e. Statistical information from the quarter.

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V. SHORT TERM GOALS

The Northeast Area Command officers and staff have set the following short term goals to further community engagement as outlined in this plan:

1. Within 2 months the area command will ensure the information contained in section III above is consistently published and distributed via the methodology described to ensure consistent communication.
2. Within 3 months the area command will host a meet and greet event with faith based leaders who represent faith groups specifically located in the area command.
3. Within 6 months the area command will advertise and host another town hall event specifically targeted at hearing concerns from and answering questions from citizens who have expressed low trust or concerns about trust in APD.

VI. LONG TERM GOALS

The following represent the long term goals of the command which will best realize the full community engagement mission:

1. Grow our neighborhood block captain list by 20% in two years.
2. Have an established faith-based group contact list within one year.
3. Increase survey results from 50% to 75% in response to the question of whether they know how to receive information from their area command website.