

# UNIVERSITY AREA COMMAND

March, 2025 / Vol. 9

ONE  
ALBUQUE  
RQUE APD



Commanders Corner: *March News Letter 2025*

---

## *A Message from the University Area Command*

---

February was a month of significant progress in reducing crime within our community, thanks to the dedicated efforts of our officers and the vigilance of our residents. While we celebrate our successes, we remain committed to addressing ongoing challenges to ensure the safety of everyone in the University Area. Here's a look at this month's crime trends and updates.

---

## *Crime Trends & Statistics – February 2025*

---

This past month, we saw significant improvements in multiple crime categories:

- **Auto Burglaries:** Down **43%**
- **Burglaries:** Down **32%**
- **Shoplifting:** Down **53%**
- **Robberies:** Down **80%**

While these reductions mark great strides in crime prevention, there was an increase in aggravated assaults:

- **Aggravated Assaults:** Up **54%**

Our officers are actively working to address this rise, and we encourage the community to remain vigilant and report any suspicious activity.



---

## *Community Engagement & Safety Initiatives*

---

- **Neighborhood Watch Meetings:** We encourage residents and business owners to attend our monthly neighborhood watch meetings. These gatherings provide an opportunity to discuss local concerns and safety strategies.
- **Increased Patrols:** In response to the rise in aggravated assaults, we have increased patrols in key areas to enhance public safety.
- **Anti-Crime Operations:** Officers are heavily patrolling Central Ave in the Nob Hill area conducting anti-crime operations bringing the drivers of crime to justice.

---

## *Officer Spotlight*

---

This month, we recognize Officer Aiden Swanson for their outstanding service and commitment to community safety. Officer Swanson played a crucial role in crime prevention efforts, particularly when he was able to arrest Larrison Bryant for attempted Burglary and Criminal Damage to Property at 1400 Central Ave SE.

---

## *Stay Connected & Report Crime*

---

Community safety is a team effort! If you see suspicious activity, report it immediately:

- **Emergency: 911**
- **Non-Emergency: (505) 242-COPS**
- **Crime Stoppers: (505) 843-STOP**

For updates, follow us on social media and visit our website. Thank you for working with us to keep the University Area safe!

Albuquerque Police Department – University Area Command Protecting Our Community, Together.

*Best wishes, Ray*



~ Commander Ray Del Greco



# Message from Chief Medina

Hello Albuquerque, I hope everyone is doing well! Wanted to kick off with some positive news regarding our Auto Theft statistics. In the first two months of this year, we have seen a 40% decrease in auto thefts compared to the same time frame last year. This is a significant decrease, and one of the biggest I've seen in my years with the department.

There is a lot that we can attribute that decrease to including a successful Bait Car Program, more awareness to auto theft, making significant auto theft arrests, and vigilance from the community as more people are safely securing their vehicles.

We recently saw a slight uptick in thefts of specific Honda models in our Northeast and Foothills area commands, so we are urging the public to please take extra precaution in helping us prevent theft.



Our Central Corridor Operations continue to be a success. During a three week period, our officers arrested 112 people. APD's GANGS, FAST and Narcotics units conducted a proactive operation with the assistance of the Field Services Bureau Proactive Response Teams (PRT). In addition to the 112 arrests, officers cleared 106 felony warrants and 38 misdemeanor warrants. The operation focused on open air drug use, drug trafficking, warrants and maintaining a visual presence along the Central Avenue corridor.



Our Criminal Investigation Division recently wrapped up a Missing Persons Operation in an attempt to locate as many missing people as possible during a one-day operation. Out of 129 cases, officers, detectives and professional staff located 55 people. Of those, 14 were juveniles and the division was able to successfully resolve 46 cases. I'm very proud of the work of this division and am looking forward to the success of more future operations to come.

On our Community Engagement side of the department, we are looking forward to an event next month and hope you'll spread the word with your family and friends.



-Chief Harold Medina

On April 5, from 12:00-3:00p.m. APD and Mrs. Sprinkles Ice Cream Parlor will be hosting Cops, Cones and Clue. We will have officers there participating in the event and are expecting Animal Welfare to host an adoption event as well.

We hope to see you there, and please reach out to our Community Engagement Manager at [Angelinavarro@cabq.gov](mailto:Angelinavarro@cabq.gov) if you'd be interested in hosting a community event.

**MRS. SPRINKLES ICE CREAM PARLOR**  
**Join us for... Cops, Cones & Clue**  
 Join Mrs. Sprinkles and APD for an afternoon of fun! Enjoy delicious ice cream, play classic board games, and bring the game of Clue to life as you work with local officers to solve a mystery.  
**April 5th 12:00 pm - 3:00 pm**  
 Mrs. Sprinkles Ice Cream Parlor  
 3107 Eubank Blvd NE Suite 10,  
 Albuquerque, NM 87111  
 10% of proceeds sold during the event goes to **ABQ Animal Welfare**

# Avoiding Auto Theft & Auto Burglary

---

Laura Kuehn, NCPS, ICPS  
Senior Crime Prevention Specialist

Aside from our homes, our car(s) is probably the largest expenditure that we make. It is important to take preventative measures to secure our vehicles and ensure they remain intact.

The Albuquerque Police Department is seeing the theft of Hondas, specifically Civics, CRVs and Accord's rising. New technology allows criminals to replicate a key fob and steal a vehicle without damaging the ignition. The possibility of resale then becomes easier.

<https://www.nicb.org/technology-steal-cars>

The Chevy Silverado is a top stolen vehicle in Albuquerque, as well as, Kia's and Hyundai's.

Safeguarding your vehicle begins with the basics – lock it, take the keys and don't leave it running. From there, add layers of protection: steering wheel lock, kill switch, GPS locator and faraday bag for your key fob. In addition, park in well-lighted areas, have the VIN etched on windows, and never leave valuables in the car.

It is important to remove everything from your vehicle, every time. Value is in the eye of the beholder. An alarming trend is firearms being stolen from vehicles. If you travel with a firearm, have a safe installed to properly secure it.

Deputy Chief Barker cited that, year-to-date – as of last week, 77 firearms were stolen across the City, the majority being taken from vehicles. In six out of the seven area commands it was the most common place for a firearm theft.

<https://www.krqe.com/news/crime/apd-says-car-thefts-are-pouring-more-guns-onto-albuquerque-streets/>

Auto burglary is a crime of opportunity; vehicles are easy targets and often contain items that are attractive to thieves. Large parking lots and neighborhoods with a lot of on-street parking can be prime targets for theft. Take the time to remove items and secure your vehicle.

---

## **Auto Theft Prevention**

*Taking precautionary and target hardening measures can reduce your chances of becoming the victim of an auto theft. The listed tips below can help can make your vehicle an unappealing target for auto thieves.*

---

### **Precautions**

- Always roll up your windows, lock the doors and take your key, Even if you will only be away for a short time.
- Never leave your car running unattended.
- Park your vehicle in a visible area with good lighting.
- Never leave a second set of keys hidden inside or attached to your vehicle.
- Park in attended lots, when possible, providing more potential for witnesses.
- If you have a garage use, as an alternative park in your driveway.
- Lock the garage door and your vehicle.
- Do not leave the title inside the vehicle.

### **Devices**

- **Kill Switch** – Interrupts the electrical, fuel or ignition system.
- **Steering Wheel Lock** – Prevent the steering wheel from being turned more than a few degrees; visible from outside the vehicle.
- **Collar** – Prevent the steering column from being stripped.
- **Brake Lock** – Prevent the brake from being engaged to remove the transmission from Park.
- **Etching** – Etching the VIN number on the vehicle's glass can make it less valuable to thieves

*The majority of auto thefts take place night or in the early morning hours, and over half occur in residential areas including apartment complexes.*

### **Report a Crime or Incident Online:**

To report the crime to the Albuquerque Police Department, the crime must have happened in Albuquerque.

For incidents regarding Hit and Run Accidents or Motor Vehicle Accidents, please call 505-242-2677 for assistance. These types of reports cannot be completed online.

To report stolen license plates, call 505-242-COPS

We currently accept online reports for the following categories:

- Auto Burglary - *Note: Stolen license plates cannot be submitted online, call 242-COPS.*
- Fraud

- Harassing Phone Call
- Identity Theft
- Lost Property - *Note: Stolen license plates cannot be submitted online, call 242-COPS.*
- Residential Burglary
- Shoplifting
- Theft or Larceny
- Vandalism
- Vandalism of A Motor Vehicle

## Crime Reporting Services Available to the public:

### **File a Police Report Online**

Are you the victim of a crime in Albuquerque? You might be able to report this crime to the Albuquerque Police Department online.

### **Report a Crime**

We currently accept online reports for the following categories:

- Fraud
- Residential Burglary
- Auto Burglary
- Auto Vandalism
- Lost Property
- Telephone Harassment
- Theft or Larceny
- Vandalism

### **Telephone Reporting Unit:**

The Telephone Reporting Unit is responsible for reports where the suspect's identity is unknown as well as all minor crime reports that do not require any field investigation by patrol officers in the field.

**The Telephone Reporting Unit (TRU)** is staffed by civilian employees. Crimes with no suspect information or evidence (fingerprints, video, witnesses etc.) can be documented by the Telephone Reporting Unit.

Contact the Telephone Reporting Unit by calling **505-242-2677** or **505-242-COPS**.

**The following are examples of reports that can be taken over the telephone:**

- Auto Burglary
- Commercial Burglary (delayed with no offender present)
- Residential Burglary (delayed with no offender present)
- Auto Theft (during TRU business hours)
- Larceny
- Lost Items (i.e. cell phones, purse)
- Vandalism/Graffiti
- 
- Runaways/Missing Person (during TRU business hours)
- Harassment/Threats
- Embezzlement
- Fraud/Forgery

- Identity Theft
- Arson (if damage is below \$1,000.00)
- Vandalism
- Lost Items If a Telephone Reporting Unit employee is unavailable file an online report.

## Public Safety ECHO:

Information about the City of Albuquerque's Public Safety ECHO program.

### Upcoming Sessions:

- Nob Hill and the University Area sessions - **Will Return Soon!**

### Connect:

Project ECHO's New Website- [iECHO](#)

Downtown Public Safety ECHO twice a month on Zoom - Password: Downtown

Second Thursday; [Join the Downtown Public Safety ECHO meeting on Zoom.](#) Meeting ID: 893 1504 5751

Fourth Thursday; [Join the Downtown Public Safety ECHO meeting on Zoom.](#) Meeting ID: 896 0256 6056

Nob Hill - University Public Safety ECHO twice a month on iECHO

First Wednesday; [Join the Nob Hill - University Public Safety iECHO](#)

Third Wednesday; [Join the Nob Hill - University Public Safety iECHO](#)

### The Downtown & Nob Hill - University Public Safety ECHO Hub Team and Curriculum

The Downtown Public Safety ECHO Hub team oversees the program and curriculum - community wellness, mental health, skills training, public safety, and drugs intervention and prevention. [Read more about the Public Safety ECHO Hub Team & curriculum.](#)

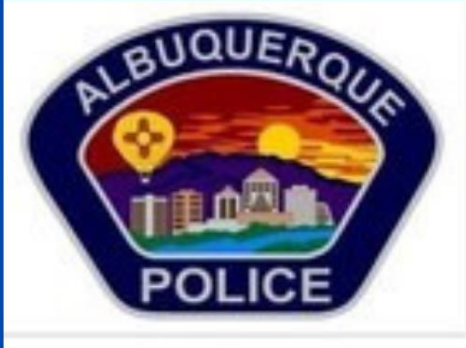
### Contact Us:

Darryl De Loach  
Public Safety ECHO Coordinator  
[ddeloach@cabq.gov](mailto:ddeloach@cabq.gov)  
mobile: 505-549-0660

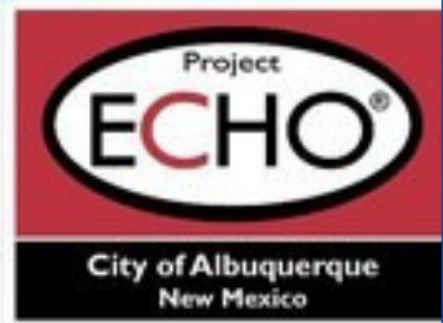
### Schedule:

**Downtown Public Safety ECHO:** Second and Fourth Thursday of each month 1-2:30 p.m. MST

**Nob Hill - University Public Safety ECHO:** First and Third Wednesday of each month 1-2:30 p.m. MST



ONE  
ALBUQUE  
RQUE



## Nob Hill/University Area Public Safety ECHO

ECHO's Nob Hill/University Area Public Safety ECHO, led by the Albuquerque Police Department (APD), brings together community members and local stakeholders to foster a collaborative environment focused on safety. This initiative creates a space for shared learning, where participants can exchange ideas and best practices for improving community safety. By engaging in meaningful discussions, led by subject matter experts to learn effective safety strategies and develop actionable solutions to ensure the well-being of the Nob Hill and University area neighborhoods. We want your input on how to make this an effective and productive learning space, please participate in the survey here!

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/nobhilluniversityecho>





## Area Commands:

The Albuquerque Police Department divides the city into seven geographical areas called area commands.

Each area command is managed by a commander and staffed with between 82 and 119 officers, depending on size of the area command and level of calls for service.

All officers are dispatched through the Police Communications operators by calling **505-242-COPS for nonemergency calls** or **911 in an emergency**.

## Police Substations:

Police department employees are assigned to the substation to answer telephones and provide general information to walk-in visitors.

The following services are available at all substations from **8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday**:

- File a report
- Request a copy of a report
- Report abandoned or disabled vehicles
- Comment on our service
- Contact us with any of your non-emergency needs

In addition, depending on the type of report you need, you may also be able to make the report over the telephone by calling **505-242-COPS**.

### Area Commands in the Albuquerque Metro Area:

- **Foothills Area Command**

Jeff Russel Memorial Substation: 12800 Lomas Blvd NE – (505)332-5240

- **Northeast Area Command**

John Carrillo Memorial Substation: 8021 Osuna Rd NE – (505)823-4455

- **Northwest Area Command**

Michael King & Richard Smith Memorial Substation: 10401 Cibola Loop Ct. NW – (505)768-4850

- **Southeast Area Command**

Phil Chacon Memorial Substation: 800 Louisiana SE – (505)256-2050

- **University Area Command**

1009 Bradbury Dr. SE – (505)768-4994

- **Southwest Area Command**

Shawn McWethy Memorial Substation: 6404 Los Volcanoes Rd. NW – (505)831-4705

- **Valley Area Command**

Gerald Cline Memorial Substation: 5408 2<sup>nd</sup> St. NW – (505)761-8800

- **Don Perkins Public Safety Center**

302 Central Ave. SW – (505)768-4735

**Valley Area Command - Old Town Substation:**

2060 Central Ave SW  
(505) 242-6643 **(OPEN WEEKENDS)**

**University Command – Triangle Community Substation:**

2901 Central Ave. NE  
(505) 256-8368 **(OPEN WEEKENDS)**