

CREATING POSITIVE CHANGE

Northwest Area Command

COMMUNITY POLICING COUNCIL

RECOMMENDATION

TITLE: **Vehicle Ambush Prevention Technology
{Resubmission}**

DATE SUBMITTED: 03/14/2018

APO RESPONSE DUE: 04/11/2018 Twenty {20} business days after submission

FINAL DISPOSITION: 06/07/2018 Sixty {60} business days after submission

RATIONALE:

This Recommendation was previously submitted. This resubmission is filed under the Keller administration for confirmation.

At least twenty police officers had been killed in ambush -style attacks by the end of November, 2016 ("Ambush killings of police officers has hit a 10-year high", Washington Post, November 21, 2016; <http://tinyurl.com/jfe5783>). Police officers are at their most vulnerable when they are stationary, in their vehicle, and focused on a task, such as writing a report. Tactics to minimize risks include parking against a barrier, or parking in a well-lit area, but they rely on the officer

maintaining situational awareness. Psychologists have demonstrated that it is difficult to maintain such awareness and focus on other tasks.

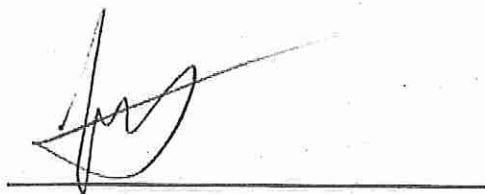
There are at least two systems available on the market to increase officer safety by providing automated signaling of approaching people or vehicles. Ford is offering "Surveillance Mode" for the new police SUV. This system can also be retrofitted to existing vehicles such as the Dodge Charger. Another system, "Stop Ambush" (<http://www.stopambush.com>), was invented by a Florida police officer. This system can be fitted to any vehicle.

Both systems retail for less than \$500.00 each and can be installed by city personnel or existing emergency equipment contractors. We believe the officer safety provided by these devices far outweighs the cost.

RECOMMENDATION:

We recommend that the Albuquerque Police Department acquire and install an ambush prevention system on all police vehicles except for undercover units. We further recommend that APO seek additional appropriations as necessary from City Council to implement this recommendation as soon as possible.

Respectfully Submitted by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Eric Jackson", written over a horizontal line.

Northwest Area Command Community Policing Council

Eric Jackson, Chair