



CREATING POSITIVE CHANGE

Northwest Area Command

COMMUNITY POLICING COUNCIL

RECOMMENDATION: Safe Exchange Zones

DATE SUBMITTED: 02/28/2017

APD RESPONSE DUE: 03/28/2017 Twenty (20) business days after submission

FINAL DISPOSITION: 05/23/2017 Sixty (60) business days after submission

RATIONALE:

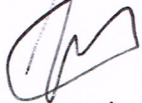
In 2016 there were at least six incidents in the US of individuals answering Craigslist ads being shot or killed by the people they were meeting. There have been several Craigslist-related robberies in Albuquerque. In response to such incidents, the Albuquerque Police Department created "Safe Exchange Zones" outside each substation where individuals can conduct exchanges of children (shared custody) or merchandise (such as Craigslist sales). These areas are marked with signs. The intention was to provide a safe area that could be monitored by police, providing a degree of comfort in uncertain circumstances. These "Safe Exchange Zones" are covered by APD surveillance cameras. Recordings from these areas may provide evidence if an event occurs, but those recordings will not prevent violence. There should be a system where civilians

could call and request live monitoring of the "Safe Exchange Zones" during a potential transaction.

RECOMMENDATION:

We recommend that APD establish a system where civilians could call 242-COPS and request live monitoring of a Safe Exchange Zone by Real Time Crime Center officers. A system for communicating with people in the area via loudspeaker should be considered, also. In the event an offense occurs during the monitoring of a Safe Exchange Zone, the RTCC could provide immediate notification to dispatchers and relay live information to responding police officers. Knowing that an area is being actively monitored may serve as a deterrent to some criminals. Monitoring may also prevent domestic violence incidents when children are to be exchanged as part of custody arrangements.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Eric Jackson
Chair
NWPCP