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Message from the Commander
By Luke C. Languit, Commander
Phil Chacon Memorial Substation

January went fast and I hope everyone has adjusted to 2022. Our officers will be starting the new bid on Saturday February 12. This new bid brings better officer coverage, to where more officers will be available to respond to emergency calls for service. We will also be filling two bike officer positions, and these two new bike officers will be permanently assigned to Nob Hill, University Heights, and the Bricklight District. With the bike officers being assigned to the west, we will have our Project Response Team or PRT Teams, assigned east, conducting proactive enforcement and problem solving in the International District and the neighboring areas.

This month I will be working with our Crime Prevention Specialists and we will be sending each Neighborhood Association, and Block Watch, information on our Restorative Justice and Conflict Mediation Training. Information will include an overview of the initiatives and training, and information on how to schedule the training for each of your neighborhoods.

Commander’s Safety Tip of the Month
By Luke C. Languit, Commander

For this month’s commander safety tip, I would like to provide information to our business community. Our shared goal is to stop the criminal activity, the vehicle thefts, vehicle break-ins, the damage to property, the commercial and residential burglaries, and of course violent crime. Our goal is to stop this crime and to apprehend the offenders that are responsible so they can be held accountable for their crimes, and also keep them from victimizing our neighbors. We know through regular communication and information sharing between citizens/businesses and police, the chances to catch these offenders greatly increase.

Good technology also plays an important role in providing information that can be used to identify an offender, and be used as evidence to charge and convict the offender. Example being, surveillance camera systems, these days compared to ten years ago, there are several high quality/resolution surveillance cameras that are affordable and have provided clear enough images to where police investigators have been able to identify the offenders. Community Oriented Notification Network Enforcement Communication Technology (CONNECT) is an interactive tool which links the police to community partners and provides a platform to communicate about crime and public safety issues occurring in Albuquerque. CONNECT operates like a business "crime watch" that allows stakeholders to communicate about criminal activity impacting their businesses on a real time basis. Community partners use the system to alert each other about criminal incidents impacting their business or geographic area, in an effort to prevent other partners from being victimized.

CONNECT provides a means for law enforcement agencies to engage community
Commander’s Safety Tip of the Month  
*By Luke Languit, Commander*

partners/stakeholders in a public safety partnership. Every jurisdiction has business partners who want to help address crime in their community, but do not have a venue for proactive engagement. Community partnerships help police expand their ability to fight crime proactively. With CONNECT, members become additional eyes and ears for crime prevention, helping to minimize crime.

Other examples of “crime watches” are picture below. RING or Next Door are similar platforms. Users can post information real-time, whether it’s surveillance photographs or just general information for neighbors to look out for.

I urge you to sign-up for CONNECT, so you will start receiving the CONNECT emails that are generated by other business owners/stakeholders, providing that real time intelligence on what and who to look out for. The Albuquerque Police Department receives these CONNECT emails and investigators will utilize the information that is posted to help solve the reported crimes, and also distribute this information within APD, so Police Area Commanders can use the information to plan pro-active operations. Please go to [https://connectabq.org](https://connectabq.org) or contact me for more information.
1. Don't announce your plans on social media. - First things first: don't share your dinner reservation, movie plans, or anything else that could be used to identify your home as vacant. Sharing this information makes your home an easier target for burglars. More than 60% of burglars know their victims—even more reason to be mindful of what you post on social media.

2. Wait to post pictures - The temptation to post pictures of the great food, the beautiful restaurant, and the romantic scenery can be great, but resist it until after the date. Just like announcing your plans, the pictures will show that you're not currently at home. Special Valentine’s Day Tip: Your partner may not be pleased if you're on your phone, either.

3. Lock doors and windows - Avoiding social media does not guarantee that your home is safe. It may seem simple, but make sure that you’ve locked all the doors and windows, including those upstairs. Most burglars enter through the front door (34%), followed by a first-floor window (23%), and back door (22%). If you have a home security system already, consider upgrading or adding door and window sensors to your current system.

4. Light up your home - A great, easy way to deter burglars is by making it appear that your home is occupied. That begins by turning the lights on. If your home is equipped with timers or smart light bulbs and wireless light controls, sync them with your normal routine.

5. Put your valuables away - Don’t leave electronics, bank statements, or jewelry on counters, tables, or nightstands. Put these items in a drawer or—even better—a safe. When possible, position large electronics, like TVs and stereos, so they are hidden when looking through your windows.

6. Limit cash on hand - Valentine's Day is a busy and often chaotic evening. You could lose your wallet or purse, or even be the victim of a pickpocket! Protect yourself by limiting the amount of cash you bring, along with other items.

7. Keep valuables in front - Okay, you had to bring the purse to complete your outfit. That's fine, just remember to always keep it in front of you at all times. Always zip it fully closed if you can. Guys: the same goes for you. Put your wallet in your front pocket. It's easier for someone to grab it without you noticing if it's your back pocket.

8. Walk in well-lit, trafficked areas - It's undoubtedly romantic to end your date on a walk where it's just you, your partner, and silence. We see it in movies all the time. However, it also leaves you vulnerable to a waiting burglar. We're not suggesting you head to a crowded shopping mall; just make sure others around who could help.

9. Ask a trusted person to take care of your home. - If one night out on the town isn’t enough and you’ve planned a romantic getaway, ask someone you trust—like a neighbor—to look after your home. Instruct them to pick up the mail/packages, shovel the snow, water the plants, or anything else to make it appear that you’re still there. We recommend rewarding them afterward for their efforts.

10. Turn off the oven, put out the candles and fires. - If crowds are not your cup of tea and you have a lovely night-in planned, be careful. Don’t leave anything on—oven, lit candles, etc.—when you leave the room or go to bed for the night. Just to be extra safe, make sure that your smoke and heat sensor is properly functioning.
What You Need to Know About Romance Scams

By the Federal Trade Commission

Millions of people turn to online dating apps or social networking sites to meet someone. But instead of finding romance, many find a scammer trying to trick them into sending money. Read about the stories romance scammers make up and learn the #1 tip for avoiding a romance scam.

- The Lies Romance Scammers Tell
- How To Avoid Losing Money to a Romance Scammer
- How To Report a Romance Scam

Romance scams reached a record $304 million in losses reported to the FTC in 2020. That’s up about 50% from 2019.

Romance scammers create fake profiles on dating sites and apps, or contact their targets through popular social media sites like Instagram, Facebook, or Google Hangouts. The scammers strike up a relationship with their targets to build their trust, sometimes talking or chatting several times a day. Then, they make up a story and ask for money.

The Lies Romance Scammers Tell - They'll often say they're living or traveling outside of the United States. We've heard about scammers who say they are:

* working on an oil rig
* in the military
* a doctor with an international organization

We've heard about romance scammers asking their targets for money to:

- pay for a plane ticket or other travel expenses
- pay for surgery or other medical expenses
- pay customs fees to retrieve something
- pay off gambling debts
- pay for a visa or other official travel documents
- Scammers ask people to pay
- by wiring money
- with reload cards like MoneyPak or gift cards from vendors like Amazon, Google Play, iTunes, or Steam

Scammers ask you to pay by wiring money, with reload cards, or with gift cards because they can get cash quickly and remain anonymous. They also know the transactions are almost impossible to reverse.

How To Avoid Losing Money to a Romance Scammer - Here’s the bottom line: Never send money or gifts to a sweetheart you haven’t met in person. If you suspect a romance scam

- Stop communicating with the person immediately.
- Talk to someone you trust, and pay attention if your friends or family say they’re concerned about your new love interest.
- Do a search for the type of job the person has to see if other people have heard similar stories. For example, you could do a search for “oil rig scammer” or “US Army scammer.” You can also browse the comments on our blog posts about romance scams to hear other people’s stories:
  * Faking it – scammers’ tricks to steal your heart and money
  * Has an online love interest asked you for money?
  * Romance scams will cost you

Do a reverse image search of the person’s profile picture to see if it’s associated with another name or with details that don’t match up – those are signs of a scam.

How To Report a Romance Scam - If you paid a romance scammer with a gift card, contact the company that issued the card right away. Tell them you paid a scammer with the gift card and ask if they can refund your money.

If you think it’s a scam, report it to the FTC at ReportFraud.ftc.gov. Notify the website or app where you met the scammer, too.
Southeast Area Community Policing Council (SEACPC)

Suzy Sanchez Beg, Vice Chair
Community Policing Council: Bridging the Gap between Community and Police

Within the City of Albuquerque, the Federal Court Approved Settlement Agreement (CASA) established six CPCs in coordination with each of the six APD Area Commands. Each month in the Commander's Monthly Newsletter, information related to the effort and on-going work of the SEACPC will be described. Each CPC has a Council of community members elected to provide the interaction between the Area Command officers and community citizens. Presentations by APD and other organizations with the City provide information to the community a forum is provided for questions to be asked and answered.

The CPCs have established a common set of Guidelines for the actions of the CPCs. The Mission of the CPC Council is to promote and maintain inclusive, respectful, and cooperative interactions between the community and the APD to ensure Constitutional community policing reforms are met and sustained.

The SEACPC normally meets via Zoom Webinar each third Thursday of each month.
Announcements are provided with the Agenda of the meeting at the website

https://www.cabq.gov/cpoa/community-policing-council

Next Session: Thursday, February 17th @ 6:00 pm

Our Southeast CPC is very active and involved in many of the most important issues facing our community. We have excellent speakers and presentations, even in these times that are constrained by health concerns and precautions.

Will you share the gift of our efforts with your friends and neighbors? All of our materials are easily accessed on-line at CABQ.gov. More specifically, now that we have become an official City of Albuquerque organization, we have our own special electronic portal at: Community Policing Councils — City of Albuquerque (cabq.gov)

That link will take you to a Google list of CPC headlines. The top one will bring you to a city map showing where the six Councils have their boundaries. Just to the left of the map is a list of live links to everything from our public forum agendas to our annual reports and videos of past webinars.

Anyone who might like to join a CPC Council can easily find the area that represent their home or place of business. They will also find easy ways to apply for membership in the appropriate Council.

Some councils are short of members and will welcome additional statements of interest. Councils provide an opportunity to build stronger ties between the Community and its Law Enforcement Officers. CPCs host informative meetings, and develop recommendations that can positively change the City of Albuquerque.
Albuquerque Metro Crime Stoppers is a community program that relies on anonymous tips to solve crimes and to locate fugitives from justice. Without anonymity of callers, the program cannot be effective.

Crime Stoppers pays rewards only for anonymous tips. Tipsters who identify themselves are not eligible for a reward.

Crime Stoppers has sole discretion to decide the amount of any reward to be paid, from zero to $1,000.

Crime Stoppers will pay rewards only for tips given directly to it. Any tip given to another source, such as law enforcement, will not be eligible for a Crime Stoppers reward.

Crime Stoppers does not pay rewards to any person who has a legal duty to assist in the arrest of suspects and fugitives.

**Felony Gun Crime + Arrest = Up to a $1,000 CASH REWARD**

Know someone who has used a gun to commit a crime, a felon in possession of a firearm or someone in possession of a stolen firearm?

Report anonymously to Crime Stoppers by:

- Calling 843-STOP
- Submit Online Tip at crimestoppers.com
- WebTip at P3Tips.com
- Download P3 Tips mobile app.
The Nob Hill – University Public Safety ECHO focuses on cases and issues in the area but the discussions and presentations benefit everyone across the community.

Join us to discuss problems and concerns in the area and for presentations addressing Mental Health, Substance Use, Community Health, Policing and skills for public safety. This is a great opportunity to meet community members and city stakeholders working in these important areas or dealing with various public safety issues.

**Coming sessions are:**

- **February 15, 5:00–7:00 pm** – Mental Health Response Advisory Committee – contact mdietzel@cabq.gov for meeting invitation
- **February 16, 4:00-5:30 pm** – Nob Hill – University Public Safety ECHO – Peer Support and Treatment
- **February 17, 6:00 pm** – SE Community Policing Council Meeting

*register using this link:* [https://cabq.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_gISlOiNaRcuLTfgtm6nNGg](https://cabq.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_gISlOiNaRcuLTfgtm6nNGg)

**It’s easy to participate via zoom:**

Join us to plan and develop priorities for this program:

- **Online survey** - cabq.gov/nobhill-usurvey
- **Invite list** – email nobhill-uecho@cabq.gov and ask to be included in invitations to sessions.

**VIDEO CONFERENCE IN**

via Zoom via PC, Mac, iOS or Android:

- cabq.gov/nobhill-uecho OR [https://zoom.us/](https://zoom.us/)
- Meeting ID: 505-662-4455 Password: NobHill-U

**PHONE IN:**

- Dial: 1-669-900-9833 or 1-646-558-8656

Enter the meeting ID: 505 277 3877 # - then hit # again

**CONTACT** Public Safety ECHO Coordinator Maria Wolfe at 505-917-5559 or mwolfe@cabq.gov

[https://www.cabq.gov/echo](https://www.cabq.gov/echo)
Albuquerque Police Department

800 Louisiana Blvd SE
Albuquerque, NM 87108

Phone 505-256-2050
Fax 505-256-2044

WWW.CABQ.GOV/POLICE

REPORTING OPTIONS

Telephone Reporting Unit
242-COPS (2677)

Online Reporting: https://www.cabq.gov/police/file-a-police-report-online

APD App:
Search ABQ Police in Google Play or the App Store

To access a traffic accident report, you can download a fillable form from the New Mexico DOT website and take to any substation once completed. If in need of an accident example sheet, contact the Phil Chacon Substation at 256-2050 and one could be emailed to you.


Substation Hours of Operation

Phil Chacon Substation: Monday—Friday 8:00 am - 5:00 pm
Triangle Substation: Monday—Thursday 8:00 am - 5:00 pm
                        Friday—Saturday 8:00 am - 10:00 pm
                        Sunday 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

The Southeast Substation will be under construction for the next few months so we urge our SE residents to utilize the other area commands for reporting purposes as well as the Triangle Substation located at 2901 Central Ave NE.

Vision Statement

APD’s vision is an Albuquerque where the community and the Police Department work together through mutual trust to build a thriving community.

Mission Statement

APD’s mission is to build relationships through community policing that will lead to reduced crime and increased safety.