



**CREATING POSITIVE CHANGE**

## RECOMMENDATION SUBMISSION FORM

**CPC Area Command: Southwest**

	<b>A: Reviewing and assessing the propriety and effectiveness of law enforcement priorities and related community policing strategies, materials &amp; training.</b>
	<b>B: Reviewing and assessing concerns or recommendations about specific APD policing tactics &amp; initiatives.</b>
	<b>C: Providing information to the community and conveying feedback from the community</b>
	<b>D: Advising the Chief on recruiting a diverse work force</b>
	<b>E: Advising the Chief on ways to collect and publicly disseminate data and information including information about APD compliance with the CASA in a transparent and public friendly format.</b>

**DATE SUBMITTED:** \_\_\_\_\_ Seven (7) business days after submission

**RECEIPT DUE:** \_\_\_\_\_ Twenty (20) business days after submission<sup>1</sup>

**APD RESPONSE DUE:** \_\_\_\_\_ Sixty (60) business days after submission

### **RATIONALE:**

The dawning of the 21<sup>st</sup> century ushered in rapid advances in technology (Police Executive Research Forum [PERF], May 2013). Historically law enforcement agencies have embraced such advances to either fight crime or disseminate information. Perhaps, the biggest impact on policing is the social media platform. More than 2800 local police agencies have social media accounts and the number is growing daily (Davis, Ales, & Sklansky, 2014). According to a 2012 PERF survey 83% of the respondents engage in social media to disseminate information; while 70 % if the agencies use social media to gather information (p. 1).

Social media use is growing. According to Pew (2015) 90% of young adults (18-29) use social media and 35% citizens 65 years and older use social media (p. 3). Since more citizens

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are using social media, the likelihood of citizens using social media to report crime and gain important information from law enforcement will also increase.

Currently the online crime reporting platform for the Albuquerque police department accepts online reports for auto burglary, auto vandalism, lost property, telephone harassment, theft or larceny, and vandalism. These online services are valuable to the citizens and the police department, especially if all that is needed is a report for insurance purposes. The mentioned services save time for the citizen and the police department; which is cost-effective for all parties.

Absent from the online crime reporting platform is the ability to submit reports for minor traffic collisions. Allowing citizens to submit reports for minor traffic collisions would save valuable time and resources for citizens, police service aids, and police officers.

These services, however, are flawed in the following ways:

1. The service "Times out" after thirty (30) minutes.
2. Services are not offered in Spanish
3. Demographic information
4. Outdated information
5. Inability to report minor traffic collisions.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

The Southwest Citizen Policing Council is making the following recommendations:

1. Extend the "time out session." The thirty-minute "timeout session" is problematic, especially for those who may not have the technology skills to complete the information necessary.
2. Offer the services in Spanish. We live in a pluralistic society. Offering services in the two dominate languages increases transparency, improves community relationships and promotes community oriented policing.
3. Requiring race, age and sex might be intimidating for some victims of crime. While it might be necessary to gather this information for statistical purposes; caution is advised in providing this information in an online platform. The Southwest Citizens Policing Council recommends making sensitive information optional.
4. Ability to report minor traffic collisions.
5. Ensure all area commands have current information.

## RESOURCES

Davis, E. F., Alves, A. A., & Sklansky, D. A. (2014). Social media and police leadership: Lessons from Boston. *Australasian Policing*, 6(1), 10.

“How Are Innovations in Technology Transforming Policing?” (January 2012). Police Executive Research Forum. Washington, DC.

“Social Networking Usage: 2005-2015.” Pew Research Center. October 2015. Available at: <http://www.pewinternet.org/2015/10/08/2015/Social-Networking-Usage-2005-2015/>