

January 2023

## Gerald Cline Substation

5408 2<sup>nd</sup> St NW  
Albuquerque, NM 87107  
505-761-8800

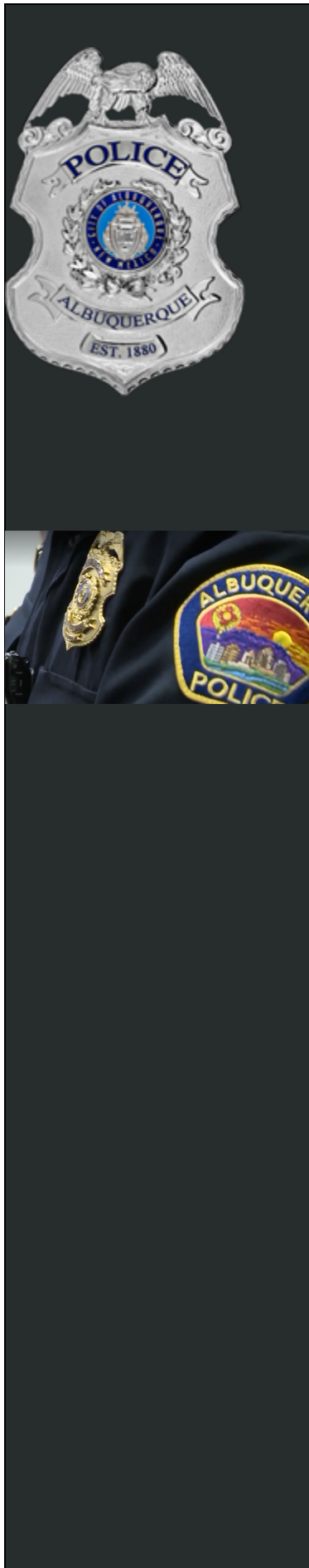
The Valley area is bordered by the Albuquerque city limits to the north and south, Interstate 25 to the east and the Rio Grande, Los Ranchos de Albuquerque, and the North Valley to the west

# VALLEY AREA COMMAND MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



**THE VALLEY AREA COMMAND IS OVERSEEN BY  
COMMANDER NICK WHEELER**





## Commander's Corner

Welcome 2023! January was a fantastic month for the Valley Area Command. Our violent crime and property crimes were down and our traffic enforcement and arrests were up. We are preparing to start our new Officer Bid which begins on February 11<sup>th</sup>. I am looking forward to welcoming our new Supervisors and Officers to the Valley Area Command.

I would like to invite everyone to attend our monthly Community Policing Council meetings which are held every 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month. They are held in person at the Johnny Tapia Community Center located at 500 Mountain Road NW or on Zoom. The meeting is from 6:00 pm and goes through 8:00 pm. We also have an option of attending by Zoom. If you are interested in attending on Zoom, please email Kelly Mensah at [kmensah@cabq.gov](mailto:kmensah@cabq.gov). He will provide you with all of the details too include a Zoom link invite.

I do want to close by thanking everyone for being a great partner and communicating your thoughts, opinions and information related to crime in your neighborhoods. Please feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions.



*CREATING POSITIVE CHANGE*

It was requested that information be provided regarding some of the steps APD is doing in order to curb violent crime. Below is a brief description of our Violence Intervention Program (VIP)

- The Violence Intervention Program (VIP) promotes evidence based violence reduction initiatives which seek to interrupt cycles of violence and retaliation in order to reduce the incidence of homicides, shootings and aggravated assaults.
- These initiatives include: focused deterrence, procedural justice, community policing, problem oriented policing and strategic prevention and intervention services based on public health strategies that strengthen the community's capacity to deter violent crime.
- VIP is a partnership that includes law enforcement, prosecutors, community members and community based organizations to reduce gun violence while doing no further harm in the communities that experience the most violent crime.

I would also like to mention that since the start of the Covid-19 Pandemic, there has been a huge influx of suicide deaths nationwide. To assist those who are feeling suicidal, or know someone who is please either pass this information on, or call yourself to report it.



The 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline is a United States-based suicide prevention network of over 200+ crisis centers that provides 24/7 service via a toll-free hotline with the number 9-8-8. It is available to anyone in suicidal crisis or emotional distress.

## Valley Area Command Crime Statistics

01/01/2023 to 01/31/2023

### MONTH OF JANUARY 2023

Auto Burglary	33
Commercial Burglary	15
Residential Burglary	16
Auto Theft	67
Robbery – Auto	3
Robbery – Commercial	7
Robbery – Individual	9
Robbery - Residential	0

### **\*Information Disclaimer\***

*This information is pulled from daily Calls for Service, which reflects all calls made to APD's 911 Emergency Communications Center. It does not reflect all crimes that police investigate, nor the final outcome of crimes investigated. Furthermore it may not reflect the true location of crimes as they may have occurred in a different location from which they are reported.*

## Definitions

**Burglary** – Unauthorized entry of any vehicle, watercraft, aircraft, dwelling or other structure, moveable or immovable, with the intent to commit a felony or theft therein.

**Robbery** – Consists of the theft of anything of value from the person of another or from the immediate control of another, by use or threatened use of force or violence.

**Motor Vehicle Theft** – Consists of a person taking any vehicle or motor vehicle intentionally and without consent of the owner.

On the crime mapping website you can run any crimes that you would like to look at in your neighborhood or throughout the city of Albuquerque. You can also sign up to receive alerts in your specific area.

[Crimemapping.com](http://Crimemapping.com)

## Crime Mapping Info & (Safety TIPS)



The Valley Area Command uses the Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) data to determine crimes that happen in the area. When a response is indicated, the information received from the caller will be entered into the CAD for a response. The information from the caller allows ECC staff to determine the priority of the call, how many officers to dispatch, and it provides the officers with vital information so they can determine what action to take as they respond to a call for service.

### Residential Burglaries

(TIP)-It is always good practice to make it look like someone is home at all times. Turn a radio on to a talk show station when you are gone, this will make it appear that someone is inside of your home.

### Commercial Burglaries

(TIP)-If your business is closed, we recommend that you check your property periodically, be sure to leave lights on and clean up any debris or growth around the property. These small steps may deter a criminal.

### Auto Burglaries

(TIP)-Be sure you are keeping your belongings out of site and remove anything of value. It is a great idea to pack a bag with items you need for the day and take it with you when you get out of the vehicle.

### Stolen Vehicles

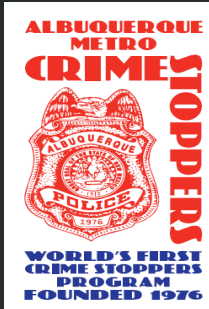
(TIP)-Using devices such as kill switches, alarms, clubs and locking doors and windows, also try to park in an area with good lighting to try to deter a criminal.

### Carjacking

(TIP)- Always be aware of your surroundings. Pay special attention when you are at a standstill such as when you are at a stop light or in a parking lot. Keep doors locked, roll up your windows and notice who is in the immediate area.

### Robbery to an Individual

(TIP)-Use situational awareness, look around, walk with confidence, make eye contact and read peoples body language. If you do find yourself in this situation give them whatever possession they are demanding, remember, possessions can always be replaced – you, cannot.



## Commercial Robbery

(TIP)- Train your employees to be on the lookout for suspicious behavior and report it immediately. Start training your brain to make note of how someone looks and what they are wearing, including their shoes. Many criminals will change their clothing but they will not change their shoes.

## Robbery By Gunpoint

(TIP)- After the robbery occurs call 911 and lock your doors. If there are witnesses ask if they can stay to give a description of the offender. Do not discuss what you saw with others, wait to give a description to the officer.

## Residential Robbery

(TIP)- Always identify who is at the door before opening it. Keep doors locked at all times. Keep an eye out for suspicious persons/vehicles in the neighborhood.

# Remember if you see something say something!

## Homeless Encampments/Services

You can report homeless encampments by calling 311 or through the solid waste email: [sw-encampment@cabq.gov](mailto:sw-encampment@cabq.gov)

To get more information on homeless assistance go to: <https://www.cabq.gov/family/services/homeless-services>

## Services Offered

There are many resources that we can provide to you, such as, informational pamphlets, Training on topics such as personal safety, scams, anti-bullying etc., CPTEDs (Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design), starting a Neighborhood Watch, CFMH (Crime Free Multi-Housing) and we can take McGruff to your public event or school or set up a table with informational pamphlets and promotional items. All of these services are free of charge.

## Crime Prevention Corner

The Crime Prevention Specialist is here to help you to try to deter crime and educate you on various topics. Below is information on Keeping the Burglars at Bay:

ALBUQUERQUE METRO CRIME STOPPERS

WAYS TO REPORT AN ANONYMOUS TIP

- 1) Call (505) 843-STOP
- 2) Online Tip [crimestoppersnm.com](http://crimestoppersnm.com)
- 3) P3 Mobile app
- 4) P3tips.com

You can earn up to \$1,000  
Remain Completely Anonymous

CrimeStoppersnm.com

Albuquerque Metro Crime Stoppers is a community program that relies on anonymous tips to solve crimes and to locate fugitives from justice.

## Valley Crime Prevention Specialist

Lamont Davis

5408 2<sup>nd</sup> St NW

Albuquerque, NM 87107

505-761-8805



Lamont Davis, our Valley Crime Prevention Specialist is here to help answer any questions you may have related to crime prevention, neighborhood watch, or APD involved community events.

# Crime Prevention Corner

## AN OUNCE OF PREVENTION

When not at home, make it look like you are. Leave curtains open a bit in front of the house, but keep them closed in back (where a burglar could look in unobserved by neighbors).

When out of town, have a neighbor pick up your mail and deliveries daily and park a car in your driveway occasionally. Have them put your trash bin away.

If you have an alarm system or dog, post signs warning of their presence.

Big dogs are good deterrents, but even a small, noisy one may help.

Dog doors are bad for security - a burglar or child accomplice can squeeze in and unlock doors.



Use timers on some inside lights (leaving them on constantly can signal that you're not home) Include timers on TV and radio.

# KEEPING THE BURGLARS AT BAY

## WHAT YOU CAN DO TO MAKE A BREAK-IN JUST TOO MUCH TROUBLE

### ALARM SYSTEMS

An alarm system can be a very effective deterrent. Contact Finance & Administrative Services for Alarm Ordinance by dialing 311

In Albuquerque you must have a permit from for an alarm.

Numerous companies offer self-install alarm and camera systems. Read research and reviews to find the best option for your home.



The most effective systems are not just audible alarms, but automatically contact an answering station whose personnel then report to police. They are installed professionally and usually connect the perimeter to a central controller. The alarm may include one or more area sensors that monitor interior spaces in case the intruder gets past the perimeter. Pick a licensed installer with a good reputation and references.

If you buy a house with an existing alarm system, re-code the system.

### GARAGE

The garage is a good entry point for burglars, who can close the door and take their time getting into the house. Keep the door closed completely and locked, even when you're home.

Install a motion detector floodlight above the garage door. It will help as you drive in at night, as well as alert you to prowlers when you're home.



If your car is parked in the driveway, lock it in and take the garage door opener in the house.

Reset the code on your door opener to thwart "master" openers.



When out of town, unplug the opener mechanism inside the garage. Put a hasped lock with padlock on the inside of the door at the top, or C-clamps on the sidetracks.

If you have a manual garage door, add a padlock on the inside.

If there is a separate door from the yard to the garage, use a solid-core door with deadbolts.

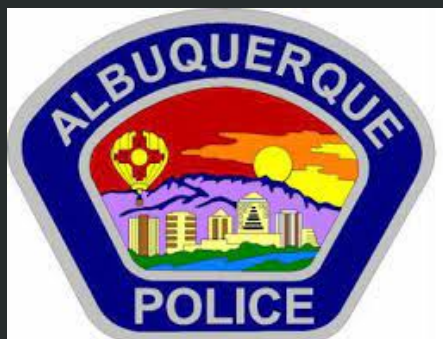
The door from the garage to the house should also be a strong, secure door. Keep it locked.

### WINDOWS

Wrought-iron security bars can discourage burglars. They must conform to the state building code in having one releasable unit per bedroom for fire exit. Teach your kids how to use them.

If purchasing new windows. Sliders should have two locks and should fit tight in their tracks (no wobble).

Don't leave windows open when gone.





Don't hide house keys in obvious places Ex: near the door, doormat or flower pot.

Keep shrubs trimmed and low near windows and doors.

Form a Neighborhood Watch group (call 768-2006 at Albuquerque Police Dept. for help). Get to know your neighbors and talk to them. If they know your not moving, they'll be able to respond if they see someone loading your furniture. Give neighbors your home and work numbers.

Keep infrequently used valuables in a bank safety deposit box.

Bolt down your home safe.

Lock gates to backyard with a chain or cable and good quality padlocks.

Some lock companies sell security packages that include changing locks and fortifying entrances. Call them for details.

#### EXTERIOR DOORS

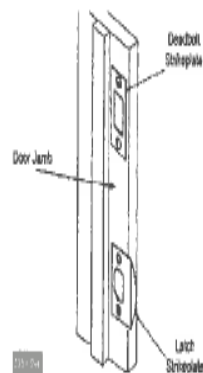
Must be solid-core wood or metal. Hollow-core doors are easy to kick in.

Use good quality deadbolt locks with a 1 inch throw. A metal reinforcement piece that fits around the lock area also helps. A single cylinder lock with thumb turn on the inside is OK, but if there is glass adjacent to the door, use a double-cylinder lock (requires a key from outside or inside) to prevent burglar from breaking window and letting himself in. Some more expensive high-security locks are made to be resistant to tampering and use keys that are difficult to duplicate.

Strike plates and hinges: the door jamb is a weak spot. Use reinforced strike plates and replace all screws (on hinges also) with 3 or 4 inch wood screws. This fastens the hardware through the jamb into the studs.

On older houses, make sure the door hinges are not on the outside of the jamb, where the pins can be easily removed by burglars

Always change the locks on doors when you buy a pre-owned house.



#### WINDOWS CONTINUED

If you must leave a window cracked, purchase hardware or install a bolt in the bottom track to keep the window from opening more than 4 inches.

Double-hung wood windows: You can drill a hole through the top of the bottom sash and partway into the top sash where they come together and screw in an eyebolt as an extra lock.

Old steel casement windows are less secure, but you can purchase locks to help

#### PATIO DOOR

Sliding glass doors are very vulnerable and easy to jimmy out of their tracks. If there is play (up and down wobble room), drill holes through the upper track and insert flat-head screws that allow the door to slide open but not shift up and down. (This helps older sliding windows) Patio Door pins hold door to fixed door.

Use a "Charlie Bar" reinforcer or a broom handle in the bottom track as a 2nd lock. Patio door pins hold the moving door

## Other Services:

Sharps Disposal (Needles) – Call 311 <https://www.cabq.gov/environmentalhealth/sharps-disposal>

Albuquerque Community Safety Administration (ACS) – Call 311, 242-COPS or 768-4227 [acs@cabq.gov](mailto:acs@cabq.gov) – ACS sends trained professionals to non-violent and non-medical 911 calls for service involving issues such as mental/behavioral health, homelessness, and addiction as well as non-behavioral issues such as abandoned vehicles and needle pick-ups.



## General Home Crime Prevention Tips:



### (Tips for at Home)

- .Have your keys I hand when Approaching your residence.
- .Wait outside if anything appears Suspicious –open door, broken Window, etc.
- .Keep doors and windows locked at all Times; consider supplementary locks if You leave a partially open window for ventilation.
- .Leave a key with a trusted neighbor or family member. Never hide a key outside in a flower pot, under the doormat or in a fake rock.
- .Trim landscaping for visibility.
- .Utilize exterior lighting-leave exterior Lights on all night. Consider motion Sensor lighting for sides of home.



# Albuquerque Metro Crime Initiative

*Actions we can take now to lower crime and make our City safer*

## ALBUQUERQUE METRO CRIME INITIATIVE

Throughout the summer of 2021, Mayor Keller convened leaders from across the criminal justice system to collaborate on crime-fighting in the metro area. The Metro Crime Initiative (MCI) brought together the stakeholders who are a part of the criminal justice system in Bernalillo County to propose ideas and solutions as immediate actionable items.



MCI explored a case study which follows a young adult moving through the local criminal justice system. The case study gave a realistic situation for participants to consider and provoked ideas on how to lower crime from all sides. MCI generated a to-do list of nearly 40 action items the City and our partners are now pursuing to lower crime in Albuquerque. The action items focus on fighting crime, reducing gun violence, closing the revolving door, rebuilding the behavioral health system, and expanding violence intervention programs. MCI will make both policy and funding requests to the New Mexico State Legislature that can help lower crime in the metro area. To learn more about MCI, visit [cabq.gov/mci](http://cabq.gov/mci). All sessions of the MCI are available for viewing on OneAlbuquerque Media, GOV-TV 16 YouTube.



Legislative asks include:

- Penalty enhancements and/or mandatory minimums for possession/use of firearm during crime
- Pre-trial presumptions for use/possession of firearm during crime (ball reform)
- Prohibit the firearm enhancement statute from being plead out in criminal cases
- Increase minimum time served for crimes with firearm use
- Close loopholes in Extreme Risk Protection Order
- Adequately fund 24/7 pre-trial monitoring services
- Grand Jury for DA COVID backlog and to prevent re-traumatization of sexual assault and child victims
- Limit case management order to those cases where defendant is detained
- Create a statewide Violence Intervention Program (VIP) through enabling legislation
- Create task force to examine officer retention and lateral recruitment programs for all police agencies in NM
- State funding for more police officers
- Continued warrant sweeps with State Police
- Examine gun violence as a public health issue
- Require gun owners to secure weapons
- Pre-trial presumptions for use/possession of firearm during crime (ball reform)

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## KELLER ADMINISTRATIONS' EFFORTS TO REDUCE VIOLENT CRIMES

To Improve homicide investigations, outreach and support for victim families, Mayor Keller and the Albuquerque Police Department have

- Tripled the number of detectives in the homicide unit and the support staff around them.
- Created the Deputy Commander of the Criminal Investigation Division, who adds experience from the prosecutor's office to build the most robust homicide cases.
- Brought on a Victim Liaison Manager for Homicides, giving victim families an immediate contact resource within APD who works closely with homicide investigators. This also frees up detectives to focus more on the work they need to complete while giving families the time and attention they deserve.
- Created Digital Intel Team to use advanced investigative techniques to solve more cases.
- Launched the Duke City Case Files program, which features one open homicide case at a time and is shared widely on social media to generate tips on the case. This includes personal stories from families.



- First Detective Academy occurred in June 2021, and the next one is scheduled for January 2022.
- Created the Violence Intervention Program (VIP), which identifies those who are currently involved or at highest risk of being involved in the cycles of gun violence. The Program staff intervenes with

these individuals through the lens of public health and law enforcement focused deterrence strategies.

- By Executive Order created the Gun Violence Prevention Task Force to reduce gun violence by developing a comprehensive violence reduction strategy through a public health lens. Representatives will, among others, include community organizations and those directly impacted by gun violence.

Works In-progress, include:

- Developing and implementing changes in Next of Kin Notification.
- Expanding the Detective Academy to include the voices of victims' families.
- Increasing use of digital and social media to prevent and investigate crimes.
- Crime Victims Reparations Support.
- Peer and Grief Support Connections for families.
- Developing of online resource list for survivors.
- Supporting more Mental health awareness in schools.
- Creating the Always Remember website where families can share photos and stories about their loved ones and APD can provide open case information, an introduction to cold case detectives and command structure with contact information, and a link to Crime Stoppers.

### Taking Action

We invite you to learn more and take action to advance MCI initiatives, advocate for more resources to help investigations and more officers on the streets, develop violence prevention and victim support initiatives. To get involved, contact Terry Huertaz, APD Victim Liaison Manager: [thuertaz@cabq.gov](mailto:thuertaz@cabq.gov).

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File a Report

Online Report

[cabq.gov/police/file-a-police-report-online](http://cabq.gov/police/file-a-police-report-online)

(TRU )Telephone  
Reporting Unit

242-2677 (COPS)

APD App



## Substation Hours

All police substations are open to the public the hours of operation are from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

If you need an Accident Report form or a copy of an Accident Report you can call with your case number to have it mailed to you via US Mail they are not provided through email. When you come in to get a report make sure to bring in your ID and Case #. For any other report call the substation to make sure it is available before coming by 761-8800.

The Old Town Substation is now open Monday-Thursday 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM and on Friday 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM and on weekends from 11:00 PM to 7:00 PM.

Valley Area Command  
5408 2<sup>nd</sup> St NW  
Albuquerque, NM 87107  
505-761-8800

Southwest Area Command  
6404 Los Volcanes NW  
Albuquerque, NM 87121  
505-831-4705

Southeast Area Command  
800 Louisiana SE  
Albuquerque, NM 87108  
505-256-2050

Northwest Area Command  
10401 Cibola Loop NW  
Albuquerque, NM 87114  
505-768-4850

Northeast Area Command  
8201 Osuna NE  
Albuquerque, NM 87109  
505-823-4455

Foothills Area Command  
12800 Lomas NE  
Albuquerque, NM 87112  
505-332-5240

## Needles/Sharps Containers/Drug Disposal

Please be advised large quantities of used needles and/or full sharps containers are not accepted at the Valley Substation. We have a small container located in the lobby. If you have more than a few needles the closest drop-off location to our substation is the North Valley Public Health Office located at 7704 2<sup>nd</sup> St NW. Call the substation nearest you to see if they accept needles/sharps. Pills are accepted at all substations (No liquids accepted).

For more information visit: [cabq.gov/police](http://cabq.gov/police)

## Coffee with a Cop:

During the month we had two opportunities to meet with Citizens via our Coffee with a Cop at Starbucks Coffee located at 1450 Montano Rd NE. This was an excellent meeting where a ton of information was passed around too include crime hotspots.

