



ON THE BEAT[®]

From the Commander's Desk

Greetings everyone,

This edition of our newsletter is full of great information on safety, crime alerts and City happenings. We are working with our specialized units within the department to deter crime in some of our busiest areas such as Uptown, the Menaul, Montgomery, San Mateo and University corridors. We have tactical plans in effect for auto burglaries, auto theft and copper theft. We also appreciate all our neighborhood associations working diligently with us to help prevent residential burglaries. One of the most important items in this newsletter is the process for becoming an organized and City recognized Neighborhood Watch. It is so important we have your eyes and ears in the community to help direct our problem solving activities and tactical plans to best use our manpower and resources in an effective manner.

Please enjoy the newsletter and as always, thank you for your continued support of the Albuquerque Police Department!

Respectfully,
Commander Bonnie Montoya



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Safety Tip of the Month - Areas Around Schools

Elementary, Middle School and High School aged children are still in school and we often receive concerns of people driving too fast through the school zones; cars not stopping at a stop sign or parents parking in or blocking neighbor's driveways while dropping off or picking up their children. Although we have not had any major incidents involving a child or parent at an area school, please be mindful and courteous to everyone so that we can continue to have a safe school year. We need everyone's help to keep an eye out for our little ones who might be walking to and from school.

As a reminder, buses are in the area dropping off and picking up children in residential areas and at schools. Make sure that you are aware of the fact that buses have flashing stop signs on them for traffic to stop when they are dropping off children.

Follow the posted speed limit signs in the area in the school zones:

- Elementary school zones are 15 MPH
- Middle Schools are 20 MPH
- High Schools are 25 MPH



Did you know? - Parking on the street



Oftentimes we receive calls from citizens in regards to vehicles and how they are parked on the street. Here are a few rules to go by:

- A citizen cannot park within 15 feet of a stop sign.
- A vehicle cannot be wider than 90 inches when parked on a street (applies to semi's, etc.)
- A vehicle may be red-tagged for the following reasons:
 - a. Parked in the same place for longer than 3 days
 - b. Expired registration tag on license plate
 - c. Broken out windows on a vehicle
 - d. Leaking fluids
 - e. Flat tires

Crime Prevention Corner

As many of you know, I communicate with several of you via email. Recently, I received an email from one of our neighborhood associations who sent information over to their members reference to a stranger knocking on the door to see if someone was home. While the homeowner did not answer the door, they did ask who it was when a male voice asked if the home was vacant. Once finding out that it wasn't, the male ran off to a white older model 4-door sedan with another male in it and left. The homeowner contacted police. Unbeknownst to this particular homeowner, police had been contacted by another homeowner who had a similar experience. The males went into the backyard and started looking into the windows and the homeowner scared them off by yelling at them, so they fled. Police were already coming into the area on a nearby street. A third home also had been targeted by the would-be criminals. In all instances, the description of the vehicle was identical. Unfortunately, the males left the area prior to police arrival, but because of the neighbors keeping an eye out on each other and their homes, at least three home burglaries were avoided that day.



Once a month, I attend a Problem Oriented Policing meeting. The area commands and specialized units come together and go over different crime trends that are happening with the city. The latest meeting showed that the Northeast Area Command had several Auto Burglaries and Residential Burglaries in the month of January. As a reminder, please be cognizant of what a criminal might see as the potential "prize" for a criminal to grab either from your home or from your vehicle. Do not leave items in plain view within your vehicle and take everything out, to include garage door openers. Remember for homes, you can contact me and I will come out to do a security survey of your home to see if there are any vulnerabilities and make some suggestions of how you might be able to better secure your home.

One of our goals for this year is to establish or re-establish Neighborhood Watch groups for the area command. As a reminder, tips for Residential Burglary Prevention, Auto Burglary Prevention and Neighborhood Watch is included in this edition of our newsletter. As always, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me via email at spress@cabq.gov or 796-1915.

Neighborhood Watch

Neighborhood Watch provides an atmosphere of cooperation between the police department and citizens interested in enjoying a crime free quality of life. It is no small coincidence that blocks are organized and actively benefit from less crime, positive social interaction with neighbors and have a sense of unity.

Neighborhood Watch programs often get started and organized for a variety of reasons. Residential and auto burglaries, auto thefts, vandalism or suspicious behavior are just a few. These types of crimes and activity naturally bring people together. A Neighborhood Watch can formalize the process. It supports the concept of neighbors getting to know each other and establishing trusted

trusted neighbors who can rely on each other for help and assistance.

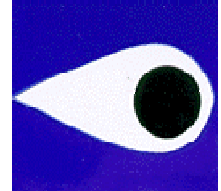
Consider starting a Neighborhood Watch on your block. Use the following steps to begin the processes of developing a safer, more secure environment and to partner with the Albuquerque Police Department.

- ◆ Contact Steve Sink at the APD Crime Prevention Office at 924-3600. You will be sent a starter packet.

The host will contact the neighbors on the block to let them know a Neighborhood Watch is being started. (Note: must be at least a representation of %50 of the block)

- ◆ A meeting will be set up with a Crime Prevention Specialist once the packet has been returned. They will assist you with invitations and the host will distribute them as a reminder for the meeting.

During the meeting, the Crime Prevention Specialist will provide a variety of safety and security tips and will help select a Block Captain who will represent the block and serve as the point of contact for the Albuquerque Police Department.



Residential Burglary Prevention

- ◆ Establish trusted relationships with neighbors on your block. Remember, residential burglaries statistically occur during the day, so if possible, identify trusted neighbors who might be home during this time.
- ◆ Make sure that each area has adequate illumination so that your neighbors can see any suspicious activity occurring on your property. Consider adding motion sensors to lights in remote areas around the home.
- ◆ Each door should be metal or solid core with a deadbolt lock and a minimum 1” throw. Short strike plate screws should be replaced with 3-4” screws that secure the plate into the doorframe. Doors should also be equipped with 180-degree eye viewers. Consider a security screen door.
- ◆ Trim all bushes and shrubs below the window level and up from the ground. Trim mature trees up to a level 6-8 feet above ground. Eliminate hiding places or areas that allow someone the opportunity to enter through a window without being noticed.
- ◆ All primary window locks should be in place and fully operational. Install secondary thumbscrew locks on guide rails. Place them in a location that prohibits the window from being opened more than a few inches. Also, make sure screens are in place and secure. (Note: Windows and pet doors are common illegal entry points)
- ◆ Install screws in the upper rail of sliding glass doors. Place them just far enough into the rail to prohibit the door from being lifted and removed. Dowel rods and “charley bars” are secondary methods to secure the door, but make sure the primary locking device is operational.
- ◆ Non-forced entry burglaries are on the rise, especially during warm weather months. Eliminate this possible access point by closing and locking garage doors, windows and front/back doors.

Auto Burglary Prevention



- ◆ Always roll up your windows, lock the doors, and take the key even if you will be away for a short time.
- ◆ Lock your doors/windows.
- ◆ Park in your garage.
- ◆ Do not leave valuables in vehicle.
- ◆ Consider placing your insurance/registration in wallet/purse.
- ◆ Hide your garage door opener in purse/bag (take out of vehicle) to prevent residential burglary.
- ◆ Park close to entry of business.
- ◆ Set alarm.
- ◆ Secure steering wheel with a club.
- ◆ A criminal looks for a fast/easy take. Don't set yourself up to get taken. The longer a criminal has to stay trying, the more they risk getting caught.

Curbside Cart Program

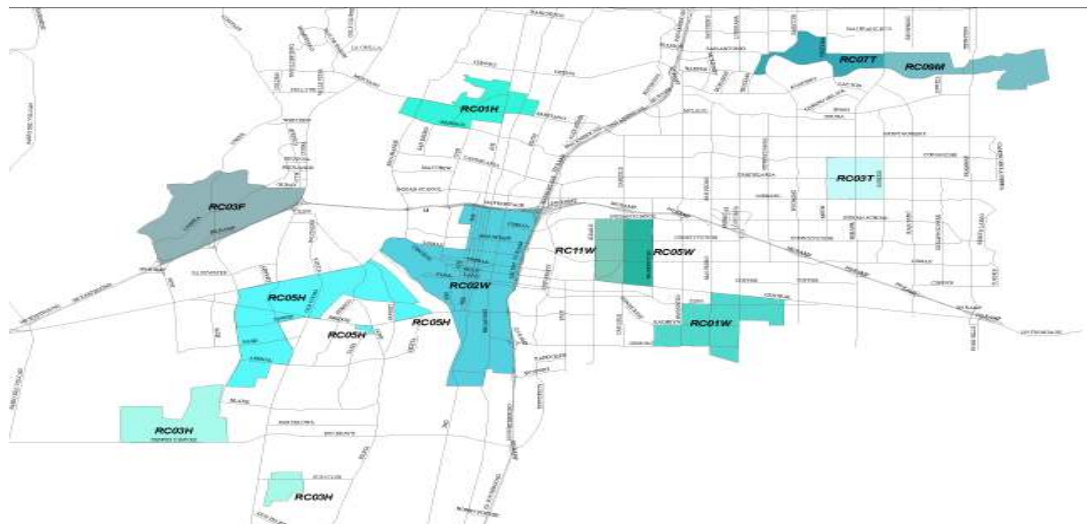


ABQ RECYCLES
go blue

In November of 2011 the City of Albuquerque signed a 12 year agreement with Friedman Recycling. The agreement is in step with the [Integrated Waste Management Plan](#). Cart based curbside recycling and a larger variety of acceptable materials are both realities to the new partnership.

Beginning in March 2012, the Solid Waste Management Department will distribute 21,000 carts to preselected areas of the City. Those that receive the new blue carts and the previous 10,000 recycling pilot program participants will be allowed to recycle the newly approved materials in their carts.

Below is a map with those areas that will receive a blue cart or that currently have a blue cart to be used for curbside recycling. The complete city-wide cart distribution roll-out is scheduled to take place at the beginning of 2013.



When your work speaks for itself, don't interrupt.
- Henry J. Kaiser

Neighborhood Delivery Collection Box Unit (NDCBU) Break-In Alert



Albuquerque has been experiencing an increase in mail theft from cluster mailboxes.

Please contact the Postal Inspection Service regarding:

- ◆ Suspects caught breaking into mailboxes
- ◆ Suspects found to be in possession of mail for or from multiple addresses

Contact us at:

888-876-5322

-Courtesy of the APD Property Crimes Division

Act as if what you do makes a difference. It does.

- William James



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NE AREA COMMAND STAFF

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Rona Hammetter, Volunteer

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Detective Gerald Roach

Detective Kevin Kees

Detective Joshua Brown

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Sgt. Mark Velarde - Team 5

Sgt. Sean Frick - Team 6

A/Lt. Josh McDonald - Watch 1 (Graveyard)

Sgt. Mark Norris - Team 7

Sgt. Rene Barraza - Team 8

Sgt. Adam Barela - Team 9

Sgt. Chris Harmon - Team 10

Important Phone Numbers

FOR EMERGENCIES - 911

NON-EMERGENCIES - 242-COPS (2677)

SUBSTATIONS

Northeast Area Command 823-4455

Coronado Mall 875-0500

Foothills Area Command 332-5240

Southeast Area Command 256-2050

Valley Area Command 761-8800

Southwest Area Command 831-4705

Northwest Area Command 768-4850

Do you have an event coming up? Maybe a thought or idea for next month's newsletter that we can feature? If so, call Sharanne Press, CPS/CFMH at 505-796-1915 or email at spress@cabq.gov