

# Albuquerque Police Department

WELCOME TO  
THE DOWNTOWN PUBLIC SAFETY DISTRICT  
E-NEWSLETTER



2025 \_ Issue 56



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Email us:

DowntownAPD@cabq.gov

## Downtown Area Command Supervisors



Valley Commander  
Jose Sanchez  
Mobile: 505-252-2589  
Email:  
Josesanchez@cabq.gov

Interim /Deputy  
Commander  
Richard Whitten  
Phone: 505-768-4735  
Email:  
Rwhitten@cabq.gov

Sgt. Giofranco Di Paolo /  
Days  
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Sgt. Elisa Valdez / Swing  
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Email:  
elisavaldez@cabq.gov



## WELCOME OFFICER JACOB CASAUS



*The Albuquerque Police Department—Downtown Public Safety District is pleased to announce that Officer Jacob Casaus has officially joined our dayshift patrol unit.*

*Officer Casaus has been with APD since 2020 and is an excellent addition to the downtown team.*

*His downtown vision involves outreach initiatives forming partnerships with strong ties to the local citizens who reside and work in the area.*

*Officer Casaus is always constantly seeking ways to improve safety and security and you will see him proactively patrolling providing high visibility to reduce crime. His long term goal is continue to improve himself as an officer and eventually pursue a leadership role within the department.*

*He was born and raised in Albuquerque and when not at work, he loves spending time with his wife and four children, with one little one on the way.*

*“Working for APD has provided me with a challenging and exciting career.” ~Officer Jacob Casaus ~*

*Welcome Aboard Officer Jacob Casaus  
Email: jacasaus@cabq.gov*

Don Perkins  
Public Safety Center

Open: Mon—Fri  
Hours: 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Closed 12:00 –1PM  
for Meal Break

**Dayshift Patrol Schedule:**  
7:00 AM—5:00 PM  
Mon-Thurs

### PATROL:

- Officer Jake Capraro
- Officer Richard Sedillo
- Officer Corbin Waquie
- Officer Jesus Gonzalez
- Officer Jacob Casaus

**Swing shift Schedule:**  
6:00 PM—4:00AM  
Wed-Sat

- Officer Liame Koste
- Officer Alicia Martinez
- Officer Nicholas Dickerson
- Officer Jose Gomez
- Officer Kevin Vega

### Civilian Staff:

- Betty Lou Chavez  
Sr. Administrative  
Assistant  
Email:  
BettyLouChavez@cabq.gov

### PSA:

- Jacob Lucero

## VIEW OUR PAST NEWSLETTERS





# Message from Chief Medina

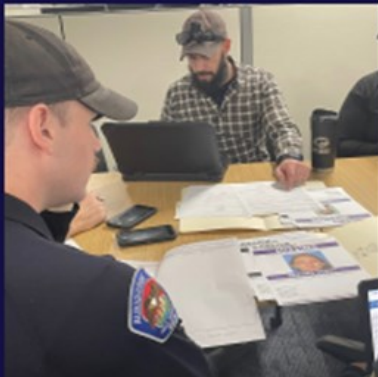
Hello Albuquerque, I hope everyone is doing well! Wanted to kick off with some positive news regarding our Auto Theft statistics. In the first two months of this year, we have seen a 40% decrease in auto thefts compared to the same time frame last year. This is a significant decrease, and one of the biggest I've seen in my years with the department.

There is a lot that we can attribute that decrease to including a successful Bait Car Program, more awareness to auto theft, making significant auto theft arrests, and vigilance from the community as more people are safely securing their vehicles.

We recently saw a slight uptick in thefts of specific Honda models in our Northeast and Foothills area commands, so we are urging the public to please take extra precaution in helping us prevent theft.



Our Central Corridor Operations continue to be a success. During a three week period, our officers arrested 112 people. APD's GANGS, FAST and Narcotics units conducted a proactive operation with the assistance of the Field Services Bureau Proactive Response Teams (PRT). In addition to the 112 arrests, officers cleared 106 felony warrants and 38 misdemeanor warrants. The operation focused on open air drug use, drug trafficking, warrants and maintaining a visual presence along the Central Avenue corridor.



Our Criminal Investigation Division recently wrapped up a Missing Persons Operation in an attempt to locate as many missing people as possible during a one-day operation. Out of 129 cases, officers, detectives and professional staff located 55 people. Of those, 14 were juveniles and the division was able to successfully resolve 46 cases. I'm very proud of the work of this division and am looking forward to the success of more future operations to come.

On our Community Engagement side of the department, we are looking forward to an event next month and hope you'll spread the word with your family and friends.

On April 5, from 12:00-3:00p.m. APD and Mrs. Sprinkles Ice Cream Parlor will be hosting Cops, Cones and Clue. We will have officers there participating in the event and are expecting Animal Welfare to host an adoption event as well.

We hope to see you there, and please reach out to our Community Engagement Manager at [Angelinanavarro@cabq.gov](mailto:Angelinanavarro@cabq.gov) if you'd be interested in hosting a community event.

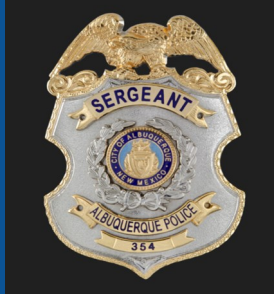


**-Chief Harold Medina**



# In Loving Memory of Sgt. Mel Acata

April 25, 1982



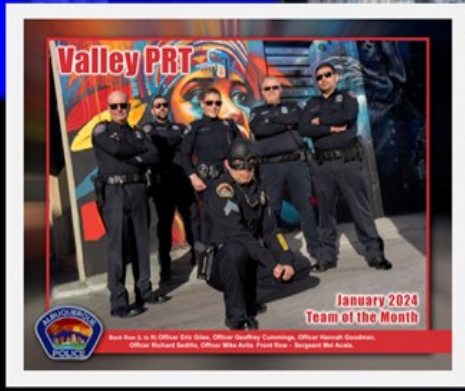
# E.O.W.

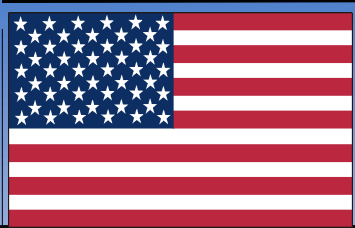


January 30, 2025

Thank you for 21 years of Service and Sacrifice, R.I.P. Sgt. Acata.

May you rest in peace Sgt. Acata.





COFFEE WITH A COP

WHATABURGER

Thursday March 27, 2025  
2:00 PM—4:00 PM  
4201 Osuna Rd NE

Join APD, Valley Area Command for COFFEE with a COP event hosted by Whataburger.

Bring Questions and Concerns for you area and enjoy hot or iced COFFEE.

March 8th, 2025



# Spring TIPS

Spring is almost here which means we're getting outside more! Here are a few tips to keep you and your home safe!

- After opening windows and doors on those warm days, make sure you lock all windows and doors before going to bed or leaving the house!
- Make sure all lawn and gardening equipment is secure either in your garage or a storage shed.
- Be aware of home improvement scams.
- Get to know your neighbors! Next time they're outside say "Hello" and get to know them. Trusting your neighbors is extremely helpful as you will look out for each other.

If you have any issues in your neighborhood, please call the Gerald Cline Memorial Substation (505) 761-8800.

If you notice suspicious activity, please dial 505-242-COPS (2677).  
If you have an emergency, please dial 911.

### Valley CPC Meeting Recap for February

Hello Everyone,

The Valley CPC meeting Re-Cap for February 27, 2025, Mayor Tim Keller spoke on a variety of issues including the City's pickup schedule on the scooters for transportation, the official promotion of Lt. Sanchez to Cmdr. for Valley Area Command and an update on the City's crime stats report. He indicated warrant operations, shot spotter operations, license plate readers, our high clearance rate on homicides, and ACS as bright spots, and spoke upon changes in AFR (Albuquerque Fire Rescue) policy, and the possible re-instatement of speed cameras.

Cmdr. Sanchez reported the monthly crime statistics, noting a decrease in comparison to the same time last year. Currently, the valley is experiencing a decrease in burglary, violent crime and armed robbery, with the exception of shoplifting, which is increasing.

On the final presentation from Cmdr. Jonathan Viers and Lt. Troy Nicko from the APD Training Academy. They detailed their role and what the Academy outlines in the training programs, changes in certification of officers, evaluation of the programs, the Civilian Policing Academy, and more.

Please join us for our next meeting, the fourth Thursday in March. Visit [www.cabq.gov/cpc](http://www.cabq.gov/cpc) for further information.

From Kelly Mensah  
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