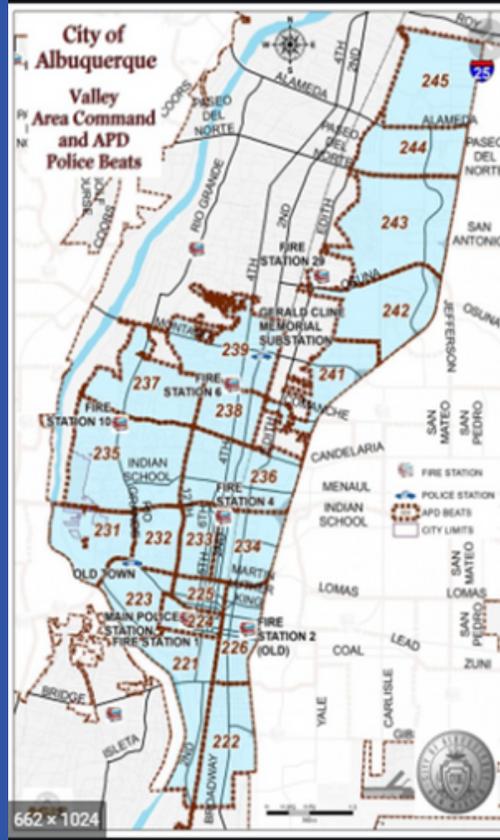


# VALLEY

## AREA COMMAND

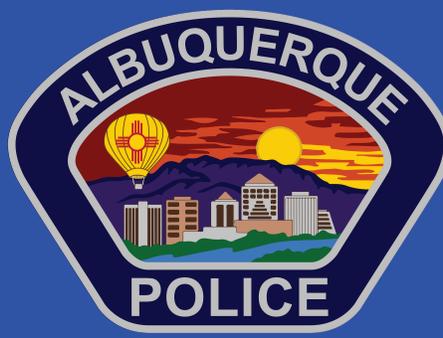


THE VALLEY AREA COMMAND IS OVERSEEN BY  
COMMANDER JOSE SANCHEZ

GERALD CLINE SUBSTATION  
5408 2ND ST NW

*february* 2025





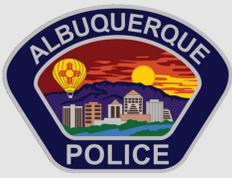
## COMMANDER'S CORNER FEBRUARY 2025

*COMMANDER JOSE SANCHEZ*



Hello all,

Your officers will be working on a few operations to reduce property crime within the Valley Area Command. I want to remind you to take steps to keep your vehicle and belongings safe. Stay vigilant and help us identify drivers of crime by calling in suspicious activities. And as always stay connected and informed.



# Message from Chief Medina

Hello Albuquerque, and Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season enjoying some time off with family and friends.

We are looking forward to 2025 after finishing out the year strong. Our Traffic Division continues to do



great work in the field. For the New Year's Eve holiday we partnered with several other agencies to enforce DWI throughout the city.

During the operation, 156 vehicles were stopped and 369 traffic citations were issued. DWI officers assisted with two traffic crash investigations and arrested 4 drivers for DWI.

As for our Criminal Investigations Division, in 2024, APD detectives solved 79 homicide cases.

A total of 125 murder suspects were arrested, a 6% increase from 2023 and the most in the history of the department. APD's homicide solve rate was also above 90% for the third straight year.



As we just wrapped up our Holiday Enforcement Plan, we will be making a public announcement with the results and highlighting some key individuals who were arrested multiple times during the operations.

I'm proud of our officers who have been working hard to make our shopping districts safer and for addressing these quality of life issues. Additionally, we have increased enforcement to a historic part of our city that had experienced more crime this year.

As we have seen improvements, we continue to address the concerns and will be holding an event next month at Old Town Hobbies and Games, hosting Cops vs. Kids Game Day.

The event geared toward kids ages 8 and up will be on February 1, from 1:00p.m.-4:00p.m. We hope to see you there!

Thank you to our community for your continued support, we look forward to another great year ahead.



-Chief Harold Medina

**FREE!**  
Old Town Hobbies and Games  
hosts...  
**cops vs kids**  
**GAME DAY**

**WHEN: FEBRUARY 1ST**

**WHERE: 109 ROMERO ST NW,  
ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87104**

**TIME: 1:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M.**

Kids, it's game time! Join the Albuquerque Police Department for a fun board game challenge! Kids ages 8 and up can play against local officers in a friendly competition.

**FREE!**

Old Town Hobbies and Games  
hosts...

**cops vs kids**

# **GAME DAY**

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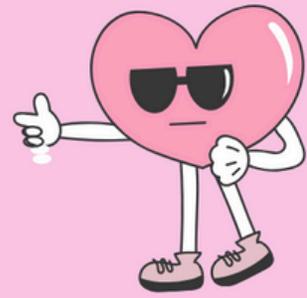
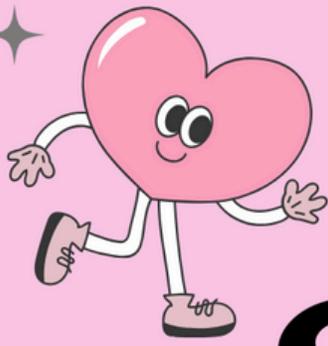
Kids, it's game time! Join the Albuquerque Police Department for a fun board game challenge! Kids ages 8 and up can play against local officers in a friendly competition.





**Thank you**  
**New Mexico Pinon Coffee House**  
**for hosting January's Coffee with a Cop!**

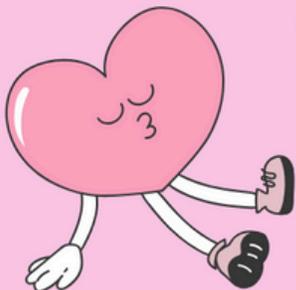
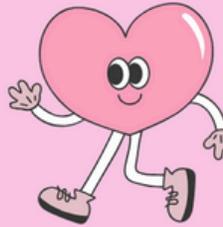




# Romance Scams

*warning signs and how to protect yourself*

- They make sudden requests for money, usually for an “emergency”  
- Never send cash, gift cards, put money on a reloadable debit card, send money on transfer apps
- They promise to meet you in person but always make up an excuse
- Their profile photo looks more like a model - use a google image search to look up their profile photo
- Limit the amount of personal information you provide them with, and you put out on your dating profile
- Take it slowly and bring it up to your friends and family. Pay attention if they have concerns or doubts



# Auto Theft Prevention

Taking precautionary and target hardening measures can reduce your chances of becoming the victim of an auto theft. The listed tips below can help make your vehicle an unappealing target for auto thieves.

## Precautions

- Always roll up your windows, lock the doors and take your key, even if you will only be away for a short time.
- Never leave your car running unattended.
- Park your vehicle in a visible area with good lighting.
- Never leave a second set of keys hidden inside or attached to your vehicle.
- Park in attended lots, when possible, providing more potential for witnesses.
- If you have a garage use, as an alternative park in your driveway.
- Lock the garage door and your vehicle.
- Do not leave the title inside the vehicle.

## Devices

- Kill Switch – Interrupts the electrical, fuel or ignition system.
- Steering Wheel Lock – Prevent the steering wheel from being turned more than a few degrees; visible from outside the vehicle.
- Collar – Prevent the steering column from being stripped.
- Brake Lock – Prevent the brake from being engaged to remove the transmission from Park.
- Etching – Etching the VIN number on the vehicle's glass can make it less valuable to thieves.

The majority of auto thefts take place night or in the early morning hours, and over half occur in residential areas including apartment complexes.

# Auto Burglary Prevention

Auto burglary is a crime of opportunity; vehicles are easy targets and often contain property that is attractive to thieves. Large parking lots and neighborhoods with a lot of on-street parking can be prime targets for theft. Use the easy, inexpensive tips below to reduce your risk.

## Precautions

- Leave nothing in plain-view inside your vehicle. Park in visible, well-lit areas.
- Roll up windows and lock doors. Place items in your trunk before reaching your destination.
- Secure the trunk, hatches, bed-mounting tool boxes and canopies.

## Remove These Items

- Garage door openers
- Electronic items (laptops, cell phones)
- Luggage/bags
- Financial documents/instruments
- Cash
- Firearms
- Mail
- Wallets/Purses





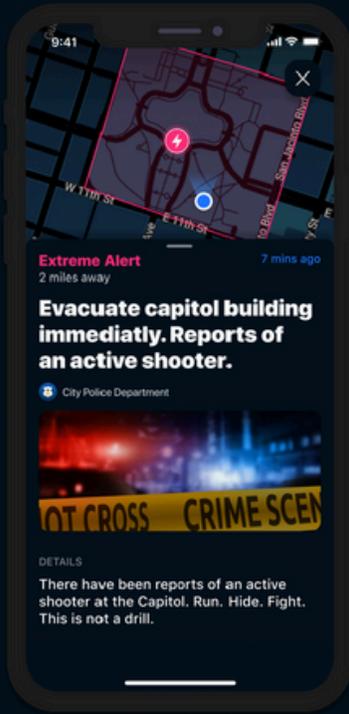
We're excited to announce that the Albuquerque Police Department has joined Atlas One, a new public safety network that will keep you connected and informed of nearby incidents, alerts, and announcements related to our community.

The Atlas One app will automatically send you an alert when a public safety issue occurs near your current location, or places you care about, such as your home, school, or office.

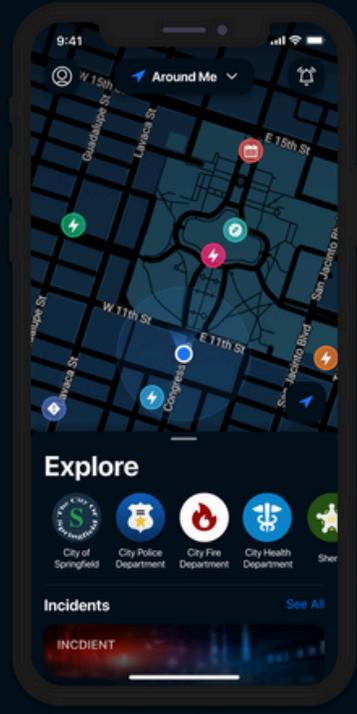
### Stay Informed of Issues Around You



### Receive Personalized Safety Alerts



### Explore nearby events, incidents, places, and alerts



You can download the app for iOS and Android devices today!  
Scan QR Code to download.



# How To Contact Us

**Gerald Cline Memorial Substation**

**5408 2nd St NW**

**Albuquerque, NM 87107**

**505-761-8800**

**Hours of Operation:**

**Monday-Friday**

**8:00am-5:00pm**



**Commander  
Jose Sanchez  
josesanchez@cabq.gov**

**Lieutenant  
Watch I  
Dain Symes  
dsymes@cabq.gov**

**Lieutenant  
Watch II  
Sean Higdon  
shigdon@cabq.gov**

**Lieutenant  
Watch III  
Matt Chavez  
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**Crime Prevention Specialist**

**Brittany Martinez  
brimartinez@cabq.gov**

