

UNIVERSITY AREA COMMAND

November, 2024 / Vol. 6

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Commanders Corner:

December News Letter

As December is upon us the University Area Command is gearing up for the Christmas season to include the Nob Hill Shop and Stroll on December 5, 2024 from 5-10PM. You will find APD personnel on foot and on bikes for the event with both of the major cross walks on Central monitored (<https://www.visitalbuquerque.org/event/nob-hill-shop-and-stroll/58557/>).

The University Area Command had had a productive month crime wise with all crime categories down with the exception of residential and commercial burglaries. As a reminder please call (505)242-COPS if your business or residence experiences a burglary. I personally review every burglary incident in the area command every week and check to see if there is good surveillance video and other solvability factors. I then ensure those incident with positive solvability factors area sent to detectives for further investigation. We have caught some serial burglary offenders and put them in prison with solid evidence provided from victims and nearby businesses.

The holidays are a time for someone who struggle with behavioral issues and APD sees an increase in domestic violence related incidents during this time of year. As a reminder from APD there are resources available if you or your loved one(s) are struggling. APD utilizes the Domestic Violence Resource Center (DVRC) which and be found at <https://dvrcnm.org> or by phone at (505)248-3165. Please reach out to them if you or a loved one experiences thoughts of domestic violence or are a victim of domestic violence.

As always, it is an honor to serve the University Area Command. Please have a safe and happy holidays and a Merry Christmas.



~ Commander Ray Del Greco





Message from Chief Medina

Hello Albuquerque! I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday enjoying time with family and friends. There is so much to be thankful for and I'm grateful for the wonderful community that we serve.

Our department is gearing up for a very busy season with many events. This upcoming weekend will be our 30th annual Cops for Kids event, a huge accomplishment for our department giving back to our community for the last 30 years. Thank you to everyone who contributed to this year's event so we can make it extra special for underprivileged children in our city.



On the enforcement side, last month we kicked off ongoing operations in our Southeast Area Command to tackle issues with crime while also assisting unhoused individuals. In all, six units are working alongside the Southeast PRT and Southeast Field Officers.

Below are results from the first month of operations.



- Felony Arrests: 114
- Felony Warrants Cleared: 28
- Misdemeanor Citations: 62
- Recovered Firearms: 1
- Written Reports: 45
- Traffic Stops: 47
- Traffic Citations: 720
- Calls for Service: 47
- On sites (self-initiated calls, ie. officer responds to a call for service then sees criminal activity taking place) 565

As the 2025 60-day Legislative Session is just around the corner, our staff is also diligently working on several critical legislative asks. At the top of that list are enhancements to the Reckless Driving statute. Reckless driving is a serious issue in our community and we have listened to victims, survivors and our officers who investigate these crashes acknowledging there are challenges with the law when it comes to charges.



We continue to work on ongoing challenges facing our community and we appreciate the community's support as we strive to make our city safer for everyone.

I hope everyone enjoys the upcoming holiday season with family and friends as we gear up for the new year.



-Chief Harold Medina

Thank you, and stay safe Albuquerque!

Don't let the Grinch Steal your Holiday Spirit

Laura Kuehn, NCPS, ICPS
Senior Crime Prevention Specialist

The holidays are a joyous time of year. It is also a time when we need to be alert to the possibility of crime. Taking simple precautions can ensure a safe and happy holiday season.

- Park in a well-lit area, lock your vehicle, and roll up the windows. Store packages out of sight.
- Avoid carrying large amounts of cash, pay with a debit or credit card.
- Avoid wearing expensive clothing or jewelry.
- Pay attention to your surroundings, trust your instincts.
- Do not buy more than you can carry; ask a friend or store employee for assistance.
- Beware of any type of solicitor at the door – criminals sometimes pose as couriers or seeking donations.
- Save all receipts; start a file to assist in reconciling holiday and/or travel bank statements.
- Use secure websites for purchases. Look for “https” in the URL or the locked padlock at the bottom of the page.
- Print and save all confirmations from online purchases.
- Track packages through shipping website.
- Ship packages requiring a signature.
- Have packages delivered to a friend, relative, neighbor or employer.

The Season also brings cooler temperatures and the temptation to leave warm up our vehicles which provides criminals a target rich environment. It only takes a moment to break the window or pop the lock of a running vehicle.

- Always roll up your windows, lock the doors and take your key, even if you will only be away for a short time.
- 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.

Anti-Theft Devices to Consider:

- **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.
- **Faraday Bag** – Blocks the RFID technology of key fob so that it cannot be copied.

University Area Command Winter Events



Twinkle Light Parade...

Saturday, December 14, 2024 | 5:15 p.m. | Nob Hill

The time has finally come, the Twinkle Light Parade is here! This is a free, family-friendly holiday event that illuminates a mile-long stretch on Route 66 in Nob Hill. Local businesses, community and school groups, and a variety of Albuquerque organizations come together to present an exciting event that brings a sparkle to all.

Shop local! Central Ave. will close to traffic starting at 3 p.m. giving shoppers the freedom to get holiday shopping done at a variety of stores or eat at restaurants in Nob Hill. Plan to arrive early, shop, then grab your spot to view the Twinkle Light Parade as it will dazzle thousands of spectators.

Applications to participate in the 2024 Twinkle Light Parade are closed. Late applications will not be accepted.

Stay Warm & Support Local

The official Hot Chocolate Sponsor for the 2024 Twinkle Light Parade is [Empire Board Game Library](#). Cozy up with a warm cup of hot cocoa on parade night and throughout the season as you shop for all your holiday gift needs in Nob Hill.

Free Park & Ride

Skip the traffic! Free parking will be available at the [parking lot located on the southwest corner of Lomas Blvd. and University Blvd.](#) Buses will run from 3-10:30 p.m., taking parade goers from the lot to UNM's Johnson Field near Girard Blvd. and Central Ave.

Transportation to the event is also available with a free ABQ RIDE bus service on Routes 5, 11, and 66. Plan your route by using [Transit App](#) or [Google Maps](#).

Event Details

Sasha Lenninger and Byron Mortan from [KOAT Action 7 News](#) will be reprising their roles as the official announcers at the 2024 Twinkle Light Parade. Judges in this year's parade will include [KRQE](#) Reporters Marilyn Upchurch, Annalisa Pardo, Natalie Wadas, Jessica Barron, and Jessica Salinas. Also joining in on the fun will be [100.3 The Peak's](#) Jackie, Tony, and Ryan in the Morning.

Public restrooms will be available at the following locations.

Central Ave. & Adams St.
Central Ave. & Sierra Dr.
Central Ave. & Hermosa Dr.
Central Ave. & Bryn Mawr Dr.
Central Ave. & Dartmouth Dr.

Street Closures

- 11 a.m. - 8 p.m. - Silver Ave. will be closed between San Mateo Blvd. and Washington St.
- 3 - 11 p.m. - Central Ave. will be closed from Washington St. to Girard Blvd.
- 3 - 7:30 p.m. (as soon as parade is through) - Washington St. will be closed between Silver Ave. and Copper Ave.
- 4 - 7:30 p.m. (as soon as parade is through) - Central Ave. will be closed between San Mateo Blvd. and Washington St.
- 4 - 9 p.m. - Girard Blvd. will be closed between Central Ave. and Campus Blvd.
- 4 - 9 p.m. - Monte Vista will be closed between Girard Blvd. and Dartmouth Dr.
 - Businesses will remain accessible.

Bus routes will be effected. Please check [ABQ Transit](#) webpages for route changes.

Twinkling Together as a Community

Did you know that this holiday parade consists of your favorite businesses, school groups, non-profits, and neighbors? This year over 4,000 people are in the parade with 260 vehicles. Twinkly entries include trucks and trailers, cement mixers, box trucks, buses, marching bands, ambulances, firetrucks, dance groups, athletic teams, show vehicles, and more!

The entries that comprise the Twinkle Light Parade are hard working groups that take twinkling very seriously. Participating groups put the time and effort into creating an illuminated entry because they love doing it for the community. Thank you to everyone involved in making this the best and brightest Albuquerque parade!



NOB HILL SHOP AND STROLL

- Presented By: [Nob Hill Main Street](#)
- Dates: **December 5, 2024**
- Location: [Nob Hill Main Street](#)
- **3712 Central Ave. S.E., Ste. A, Albuquerque, NM 87108**
- Time: **5:00 PM to 10:**