

Volume 6, Issue 3 March 2025

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## Message from the Commander

By: Commander Josh Richards, Phil Chacon Memorial Substation

I can't believe it's already March! This year is flying by. I'm pleased to share that the past two months have been incredibly educational for me as I've had the opportunity to meet so many people in the International District. I've engaged with business



owners, stakeholders, community members, and many others. From these meetings, I'm happy to report that we are making progress in reducing crime. Both violent crime and property crime have been trending downward in recent weeks. While these are small gains, they demonstrate meaningful progress.

Our new BID launches on March 8, 2025, and I'm excited to introduce an outstanding team of officers, sergeants, and lieutenants in the SE Area Command. They are committed to working diligently and collaboratively with you all to continue the great work being done by the current BID team.

#### **SE Contacts**

- Commander Richards jrichards@cabq.gov 256-2050
- Lt. Stephenson
   Day Shift
   astephenson@cabq.gov

   256-2050
- Lt. Johnson Swing Shift bajohnson@cabq.gov 256-2050
- Lt. Martinez
   Graveyard Shift
   stmartinez@cabq.gov
   256-2050

Lastly, I want to ensure you have the easiest way to reach me. The best way is via email at jrichards@cabq.gov. You are also welcome to email the substation or call and leave me a message.

I look forward to continuing this important work with all of you in the community!



## **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.

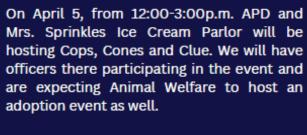
40% DECREASE IN AUTO THEFTS YEAR TO DATE

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.



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



-Chief Harold Medina



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Happy St. Patrick's Day IT'S NOT LUCK. IT'S A CHOICE.

BE SAFE THIS ST. PATRICK'S DAY

of American adults

Average amount St. Patrick's partiers will spend



plan to celebrate St. Patrick's Day

AVERAGE # OF DRINKS CONSUMED ON ST. PATRICK'S DAY



fatalities involved a drunk driver

Rate at which alcohol-related ar crashes claim a life over St. Patrick's Day holiday

Source: WalletHub

2016 - 2020

in drunk-driving crashes during the St. Patrick's Day period.

of fatal St. Patrick's Day holiday car crashes involved a drunk driver

**MOST POPULAR** 



## St. Patrick's Day

may have been third on the list for the most consumed drinks, but it's a holiday men most associated with alcohol.

Men binge drank more

of men related St. Patrick's Day to alcohol.

scramsystems.com/stpatricks



## **ABQ 311**

Help me clean up graffiti in our community and download the "ABO 311" App. It's easy, if you see graffiti in our community stop in a safe area and take a photo. Pin your location and give a brief description of what and where the graffiti is located so our city employees can easily respond for clean-up.

## Southeast Area Community Policing Council (SEACPC)

CPC.ABQ.Southeast@xemaps.com

Albuquerque's six Community Policing Councils (CPCs) work to promote and maintain inclusive, respectful, and cooperative interactions between the community and the Albuquerque Police Department. Our goal is to ensure Constitutional community policing. With that in mind, we focus our efforts on principles commonly called the

"Four C's"

communication, collaboration, consensus-building, and cooperation



Join us for our upcoming meeting....

## Southeast Command Meetings

Meeting times: Meets from 6 to 7:30 p.m. on the third Thursday of every month.

Cesar Chavez Community Center - 7505 Kathryn Avenue SE

However, if you prefer to attend virtually, here is the link to join us by Zoom: <a href="https://cabq.zoom.us/j/88936665733">https://cabq.zoom.us/j/88936665733</a>

# APD FAMILY ADVOCACY CENTER

(FAC) is committed to providing victims of domestic violence, child abuse, sexual assault and their families with a safe setting to assist in addressing and overcoming the trauma of their experience and break the cycle of violence.

- Domestic Violence Resource Center, 24 hour hotline (505) 248-3165
- SANE- Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners, 24 hour hotline (505) 883-8720
- Rape Crisis Center of New Mexico, 24 hour hotline (505) 266-7711

## **Member Information**

Council Chair:

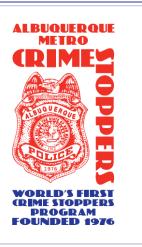
Council Vice-Chair: TBD

Other Members:

Jeffrey Archuletta

Paul Chavez

Chris McDaniel



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# TIP HOTLINE: **505-843-STOP**



**ABQ 311** 

Help me clean up graffiti in our community and download the "ABQ 311" App. It's easy, if you see graffiti in our community stop in a safe area and take a photo. Pin your location and give a brief description of what and where the graffiti is located so our city employees can easily respond for clean-up.

Albuquerque Metro Crime Stoppers is a community program that relies on anonymous tips to solve crimes and to locate fugitives from justice. Without anonymity of callers, the program cannot be effective.

Crime Stoppers pays rewards only for anonymous tips. Tipsters who identify themselves are not eligible for a reward.

Crime Stoppers has sole discretion to decide the amount of any reward to be paid, from zero to \$1,000.

Crime Stoppers will pay rewards only for tips given directly to it. Any tip given to another source, such as law enforcement, will not be eligible for a Crime Stoppers reward.

Crime Stoppers does not pay rewards to any person who has a legal duty to assist in the arrest of suspects and fugitives.

## Felony Gun Crime + Arrest = Up to a \$1,000 CASH REWARD

Know someone who has used a gun to commit a crime, a felon in possession of a firearm or someone in possession of a stolen firearm?

Report anonymously to Crime Stoppers by:

Calling 843-STOP

Submit Online Tip at crimestoppers.com

Web Tip at P3Tips.com

Download **P3 Tips** mobile app.

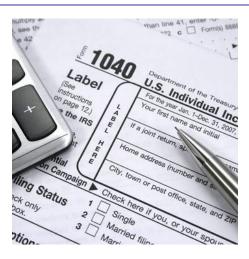


Receive alerts in your area; view calls for service for your block or a radius of up to two miles of an



Feb 27, 2025

# Dirty Dozen tax scams for 2025: IRS warns taxpayers to watch out for dangerous threats



WASHINGTON — The Internal Revenue Service today announced its annual <u>Dirty Dozen</u> list of tax scams for 2025 with a warning for taxpayers, businesses and tax professionals to watch out for common schemes that threaten their tax and financial information.

Ranging from email schemes to misleading tax credits, many of the Dirty Dozen items peak during filing season as people prepare their tax returns. In reality, these <u>scams</u> can occur throughout the year as fraudsters look for ways to steal money, personal information and data.

The IRS' annual Dirty Dozen campaign lists 12 scams and schemes that threaten taxpayers. While the Dirty Dozen is not a legal document or a formal listing of agency enforcement priorities, the education effort is designed to raise awareness and protect taxpayers and tax pros from common tax scams and schemes.

"Scammers are relentless, and they use the guise of tax season to try tricking taxpayers into falling into a variety of traps. These red flags can lead to everything from identity theft to being misled into claiming tax credits for which they're not entitled," said Terry Lemons, IRS communications senior adviser. "For more than two decades, the IRS has highlighted the Dirty Dozen through far-reaching communications and education campaigns as part of a wider effort by the agency to protect taxpayers from being scammed."

Under Lemons' leadership, the IRS created the Dirty Dozen campaign in 2002 to counter emerging scams being seen across the country. Combined with related efforts by the <u>Security Summit</u>, the IRS has worked for a decade with state tax agencies and the nation's tax software and financial industry as well as tax professionals to educate taxpayers about scams and fraudulent schemes.

The Dirty Dozen list often has cautioned taxpayers about tax-related identity theft, in support of the Security Summit's ongoing efforts in this area, that have led to protecting millions of taxpayers and billions of dollars from refund fraud.

Last year, the tax community launched a related effort called the <u>Coalition Against Scam and Scheme Threats</u> (<u>CASST</u>) following a surge in social media-fueled scams.

As part of these continuing efforts to protect taxpayers against constantly evolving scams, the 2025 IRS Dirty Dozen list highlights the following 12 pervasive threats:

- 1. Email phishing scams and "smishing"
- 2. Bad social media advice
- 3. IRS Individual Online Account help from scammers
- 4. Fake charities
- 5. False fuel tax credit claims
- 6. Credits for sick leave and family leave
- 7. Bogus self-employment tax credit
- 8. Improper household employment taxes
- 9. The overstated withholding scam
- 10. Misleading offers in compromise
- 11. Ghost tax return preparers

New client scams and spear phishing

For more details about each scam, head to IRS.gov.

## Avoiding Auto Theft & Auto Burglary

Laura Kuehn, NCPS, ICPS

Aside from our homes, our car(s) is probably the largest expenditure that we make. It is important to take preventative measures to secure our vehicles and ensure they remain intact.

The Albuquerque Police Department is seeing the theft of Hondas, specifically Civics, CRVs and Accords rising. New technology allows criminals to replicate a key fob and steal a vehicle without damaging the ignition. The possibility of resale then becomes easier.

## https://www.nicb.org/technology-steal-cars

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The Chevy Silverado is a top stolen vehicle in Albuquerque, as well as, Kia's and Hyundai's.

Safeguarding your vehicle begins with the basics – lock it, take the keys and don't leave it running. From there, add layers of protection: steering wheel lock, kill switch, GPS locater and faraday bag for your key fob. In addition, park in well-lighted areas, have the VIN etched on windows, and never leave valuables in the car.

It is important to remove everything from your vehicle, every time. Value is in the eye of the beholder. An alarming trend is firearms being stolen from vehicles. If you travel with a firearm, have a safe installed to properly secure it.

Deputy Chief Barker cited that, year-to-date – as of last week, 77 firearms were stolen across the City, the majority being taken from vehicles. In six out of the seven area commands it was the most common place for a firearm theft.

https://www.krqe.com/news/crime/apd-says-car-thefts-are-pouring-more-guns-onto-albuquerque-streets/

Auto burglary is a crime of opportunity; vehicles are easy targets and often contain items that are attractive to thieves. Large parking lots and neighborhoods with a lot of on-street parking can be prime targets for theft. Take the time to remove items and secure your vehicle.

The Nob Hill – University Public Safety ECHO focuses on cases and issues in the area but the discussions and presentations benefit everyone across the community.

Join us to discuss problems and concerns in the area and for presentations addressing Mental Health, Substance Use, Community Health, Policing and skills for public safety. This is a great opportunity to meet community members and city stakeholders working in these important areas or dealing with various public safety issues.

## Nob Hill-U Public Safety ECHO - Will Return Soon!

## **Upcoming sessions for Downtown ECHO:**

Thursday, March 13th "The Juvenile Code" and 27th "Consent"

♦ March 13th 1:00- 2:30 pm – Downtown Public Safety ECHO \*\*

♦ March 20th 6:00-7:30 pm – SE Community Policing Council Meeting

♦ March 27th 1:00- 2:30 pm – Downtown Public Safety ECHO \*\*

register using this link: <a href="https://cabq.zoom.us/j/89315045751#success">https://cabq.zoom.us/j/89315045751#success</a>

\*\* It's easy to participate via zoom:

## **VIDEO CONFERENCE IN**

via Zoom via PC, Mac, iOS or Android:

2nd Thursday Meeting ID: **893-1504-5751** Password: **Downtown** 4th Thursday Meeting ID: **896-0256-6056** Password: **Downtown** 







#### REPORTING OPTIONS

## Telephone Reporting Unit 242-COPS (2677)

Online Reporting: https://www.cabq.gov/police/file-a-police-report-online

To access a traffic accident report, you can download a fillable form from the New Mexico DOT website and take to any substation once completed. If in need of an accident example sheet, contact the Phil Chacon Substation at 256-2050 and one could be emailed to you.

New Mexico Uniform Crash Report: http://nmtrafficrecords.com/resources/new-mexico-uniform-crash-report-2/



## Substation Hours of Operation

Monday - Friday 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

Closed Saturday & Sunday and federal/public holidays

## Albuquerque Police Department

800 Louisiana Blvd SE Albuquerque, NM 87108

Phone: 505-256-2050 Fax: 505-256-2044

## **Vision Statement**

APD's vision is an Albuquerque where the community and the Police Department work together through mutual trust to build a thriving community.

## **Mission Statement**

APD's mission is to build relationships through community policing that will lead to reduced crime and increased safety.

## WWW.CABQ.GOV/POLICE



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# **March 2025**

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Safety Echo meeting 6:00pm							
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