



MNPD NEWSLINE

THE OFFICIAL EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER OF THE MNPD

August 1, 2008

News from the Chief

As of this evening, a total of 343 officers have completed the new Taser certification classes being taught at the Training Academy. The five remaining certification class dates are August 18, 19, 20, 21, and 22. As I said in June when the department began redeploying Tasers to officers, there is no doubt the devices help reduce injuries to suspects and officers by preventing a physical fight with resistant arrestees. I am aware that some officers have questioned why the Tasers the department is now using are equipped with cameras. Camera-equipped Tasers best serve the police department and the community by recording the interaction with the suspect(s) after Taser deployment. The cameras will help to quickly resolve any false allegations against officers and, at the same time, help reassure the community that the department has taken steps to ensure that Tasers will be used wisely and correctly. A number of law enforcement agencies throughout the country now used camera-equipped Tasers.

Community groups throughout Nashville have planned events and celebrations Tuesday evening in recognition of National Night Out Against Crime. National Night Out is a great chance to thank citizens for their support and partnering with us to attack crime. I look forward to seeing many of you at Tuesday night's events.

Thank you all for your hard work and dedication. I sincerely appreciate all that you do to make a difference for Nashville's families and visitors.

Happenings

Recognizing the Metropolitan Nashville Police Department's commitment to law enforcement excellence, professionalism, and state-of-the-art practices, the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA), reaccredited the department for a three-year period ending in 2011.

The Commission took the action at its summer meeting in Boca Raton, Florida, after reviewing the report of an April Metro Police Department inspection by three CALEA assessors, and after hearing from Chief Ronal Serpas, who appeared before the panel this morning.

At the conclusion of the hearing, CALEA Commissioner Louis Dekmar, who chaired the review of the Metro Police Department, told Chief Serpas and the department's accreditation team, "You are an example of an outstanding agency that makes professional law enforcement proud."

In their report to the Commission, the assessors, who spent four full days in April examining and reviewing all aspects of the department's policy, procedures, and operations, found the MNPd to be in compliance with 344 CALEA standards. There were no non-compliance issues.

The Metro Police Department first achieved accredited status in 1994. It was successfully renewed in 1999, 2002, 2005, and 2008.



Chief Ronal Serpas (left) addresses CALEA commissioners regarding the operation and practices of the Metropolitan Police Department. Joining Chief Serpas (l-r) are Sergeant Charles Vance (MNPd Accreditation Manager), Sergeant Jason Sharpe, Captain Paul Trickey, and Sergeant Charles Rutzky.

FOP Andrew Jackson Police Youth Camp

Each summer disadvantaged children are able to enjoy a free week at camp where they participate in many fun activities including team sports, swimming, and canoeing. Officers devote time and attention to the kids ages eight through 12 developing lasting friendships and future ambassadors for the community. Thanks to all who made the six one-week camps so successful. Many components of the department took time to visit camp including members of Mounted Patrol, Aviation, Canine, and SWAT.



Chief Ronal Serpas visits with FOP campers during a SWAT demonstration.



Officers and campers on Awards Day at the FOP Andrew Jackson Police Youth Camp

Background & Recruitment officers attended the Southern Regional Law Enforcement Conference last month at the Georgia International Convention Center.



Pictured (l-r) are Officers Mable Osemwegie and Gerald McShepard

Training Session 58



Members of Session 58 receive Taser training from Sergeant Clint Gilliland.

The Precinct News

Hermitage

Alert police work by Officer Paul Joyner led to the arrest of two men on felony drug and weapons charges. Officer Joyner spotted Prince Carver, 24, driving a maroon Mercury Sable. Officer Joyner knew from previous experience that Carver did not have a valid license. Officer Joyner stopped the car at Lafayette and Lewis Streets. As Officer Joyner approached the Sable, he saw the passenger, Terry Comer, 25, frantically placing objects inside a hidden compartment located in the passenger door. Seized in a subsequent search were four pistols, three bags of marijuana, one bag of crack cocaine, and one bag of powdered cocaine.

Both men are charged with felony drug possession and a Crooks with Guns law violation. Joyner, who was convicted of driving on a suspended license (second offense) in April, was also found guilty in May of illegal drug possession. Comer is a convicted felon on a 2003 aggravated assault charge.

Officer Cassandra Del Bosco's persistence paid off with the arrest of auto burglary suspect Darren Randolph a short time after he stole a woman's purse from her car while she was

parked at a gas pump outside a convenience store on Spence Lane. After the theft, Randolph drove off in a maroon Chrysler Allero.

Officer Del Bosco located the suspect car in the 1400 block of Lebanon Pike, but it was unoccupied. Officer Del Bosco waited until the suspect returned and took him into custody after a brief foot chase. The victim's purse was found in the Chrysler. She positively identified Randolph as the man who stole her purse. He is charged with motor vehicle burglary and evading arrest. Randolph pled guilty to misdemeanor drug possession in February.

South

South Precinct Flex officers encountered much more than they expected when they went to an Edmondson Pike home to arrest a man for vandalism.

Robert Mullins, 22, of 5721 Edmondson Pike, Unit 311, was identified by Vanderbilt University Police as the man who vandalized a campus electrical box with spray paint. A Vanderbilt detective took out an arrest warrant against Mullins and asked South Precinct Flex officers to serve it.

Officers persistently knocked on Mullins' door until he finally appeared in his underwear and quickly stepped outside, making sure to close the door behind him. The door was open long enough, however, for officers to be overwhelmed by the odor of marijuana. The scene was frozen, South Precinct's Crime Suppression Unit was called to the scene, and a search warrant was obtained for Mullins' home. Inside the basement of the residence was an elaborate marijuana grow operation, including 22 maturing marijuana plants, two pounds of marijuana, nearly \$5,000 cash, various marijuana pipes, and cultivation literature.

Mullins remarked to detectives that he was growing marijuana so that he wouldn't be robbed buying it from drug dealers.

In addition to the original vandalism case, Mullins is charged with cultivating marijuana within a drug-free zone due to his home's proximity to Edmondson Pike Childcare. He is also charged with possession of drug paraphernalia. His bond is set at \$55,000.

East

A continuing investigation into illegal gun and drug sales led to Wednesday's arrest of two convicted felons on drug charges and an ongoing review of their weapons activities by federal authorities.

Jonathan Cole Mangrum, 27, who has convictions for especially aggravated burglary, auto burglary, and drug possession, is presently charged with marijuana possession by an ex-convict, a felony, and possession of drug paraphernalia. He was arrested during the execution of a search warrant at his 1110 Baptist Word Center Drive mobile home.

David L. Morris, Jr., 27, of 3035 Hillside Avenue, a convicted burglar and friend of Mangrum's, was arrested after a search of his residence revealed nearly eight ounces of marijuana and drug equipment. He is charged with possession of marijuana for resale and

possession of drug paraphernalia. Investigators believe the two conspired to unlawfully sell guns, including pistols and rifles, from Morris' home.

This investigation was begun by the East Precinct's evening Flex Unit. The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives is handling the federal aspects of the case.

North

Officer Byron Boelter stopped Archie Henry, 23, for a seatbelt violation. Henry admitted his license was suspended. When asked if the Dodge Charger could be searched, Henry told Officer Boelter that it was not his car.

A police dog was called to the scene and indicated to the presence of narcotics in the Dodge. Seized in a subsequent search were a stolen handgun and 9.8 grams of marijuana packaged for resale.

Henry, a convicted felon for cocaine possession, was charged with a Crooks with Guns law violation, theft, felony drug possession, and driving on a suspended license.

West

West Precinct detectives have arrested two men for burglarizing an abandoned school building and taking its copper plumbing.

Kevin L. Keller, 43, of Poston Avenue, and Robert D. Hollingsworth, 37, of Acklen Park Drive, were arrested behind Randall's Learning Center (once known as Ransom School) on Byron Avenue. They were taken into custody as they loaded copper pipe from the school into an SUV.

Copper was first stolen from the building on July 17. A fingerprint lifted from the burglary scene that day was subsequently matched to Keller. Detectives were conducting surveillance in the area of the school July 23 when Keller got out of an SUV driven by Hollingsworth and broke into the building. Keller removed an estimated 80 to 100 feet of copper pipe and, along with Hollingsworth, was loading it into an Isuzu Rodeo when detectives moved in.

Keller, who has been charged with a total of 36 offenses over the past six years, now faces two counts of burglary. He is being held in lieu of \$30,000 bond. Hollingsworth, a convicted armed robber, is charged with one count of burglary and is being held in lieu of \$15,000.

West Precinct Patrol officers assigned to concentrate on recent auto burglaries arrested three people believed responsible for at least six vehicle break-ins since July 13.

Jeremy Lewis, 24, Alicia Callis, 23, and Travis Shell, 26, all of Maudina Avenue, are each charged with six counts of theft. Typically, the thieves would break a window and steal whatever was in plain view including golf clubs, jewelry, iPods, stereo equipment, tools, checks, credit cards, cash, and cell phones.

Officers Carey Adkerson, Daryl Howard, and Scott Ragan recovered many of the stolen items during a consent search of Callis' apartment on July 19. Lewis and Callis were taken into custody without incident, but Shell fled on foot. He was arrested yesterday.

The vehicle burglaries occurred on Hillwood Boulevard, Vaught Drive, the 5800 block of Charlotte Pike, Alden Court, and Branch Creek Road.

Callis and Lewis are also charged with unlawful drug possession. She is being held on \$55,500 bond. He is being held in lieu of \$49,500 bond.

Shell, a convicted felon for motor vehicle burglary, has past convictions for assault and theft. He is being held in lieu of \$160,000 bond.

Central

In ongoing efforts to respond to quality of life and safety concerns, Central Precinct Crime Suppression Unit detectives and Flex officers arrested two men at the Discount Liquor, Cold Beer, and Cigarettes store at 201 Lafayette Street for felony drug paraphernalia distribution.

The owner, Randall T. Smith, 29, of Glade Street, and a clerk, John Albert Jones, 71, of Cannon Street, were at the business when detectives served a search warrant at 1 p.m. Glass pipes were sold to an undercover officer from behind the counter in cigarette packs containing a steel wool filter or "Chore Boy" for \$5.

The investigation stemmed from the arrest of a prostitute who had one of the packages in her possession. Over 4,000 pipes and two handguns were seized.

Professional Support Employees of the Month for April, May, and June

Heidi Bennett, the senior Police Crisis Counselor with the Domestic Violence Division, has served the department for over 15 years. Always willing to take on the difficult cases and special projects, the District Attorney's Office has written several letters of commendation regarding Ms. Bennett. She has utilized her extensive training to counsel children who have experienced violence in the home and most recently, she represented the police department in addressing the problem of elder abuse.

Christy James, Office Support Specialist II in the Payroll Section, has brought the Family and Medical Leave Act into compliance with local, state, and federal laws. She has developed her own training materials for future classes to instruct all supervisors throughout the department in consistently applying the Family and Medical Leave Act. In addition, Ms James completes her regular payroll processing duties.

Tricia McCanless, Human Resources Analyst I, recently researched, constructed, and implemented an entire human resource component that will serve as a cornerstone for personnel-related ARMS issues. Her expertise in the employment process was invaluable in successfully implementing this vital ARMS project.

[From the District Attorney's Office](#)

After just two hours of deliberations, Michael Peoples was convicted July 22 of felony murder, especially aggravated robbery, aggravated robbery, and aggravated kidnapping for the October 12, 2007 murder of Abdulahi Musse inside Musse's Hickory Trace apartment.

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Condolences:

Josephine Wilson, grandmother of Officer Wayne Fisher, East Precinct, passed away July 19.

Danny Haley, father of Sergeant Danny Haley, West Precinct, passed away.

Lori Rosalia, sister-in-law of Detective Jason Rosalia, Hermitage Precinct, passed away July 23.

Winney Harrison, aunt of Lieutenant Danny Driskell, East Precinct, passed away July 26.

Dorothy Cox, the grandmother of Sergeant Eby, North Precinct, passed away July 27.

Pearly Mount, mother-in-law of Investigator Grady Pinchon, Background & Recruitment, passed away July 29.

Retired Sergeant Don John Hudson, 64, passed away July 18. Sergeant Hudson retired in 1993 after serving 28 years with the Metropolitan Nashville Police Department.