



Westside Regional Command News Beat

December 2011

Issue 3

Commander's
Corner

Commander's Corner...

By Commander Raymond Chaires

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Greetings,

On behalf of the men and women of West Side Regional Command, I wish you and your family a safe holiday. With the holiday season upon us and I ask that each of you take extra precautions to ensure that you are not victimized while out shopping. Please lock your vehicle and place your valuables in a safe location where they are not easily visible. Always be cognizant of your surroundings and if you see any suspicious activity, notify law enforcement immediately.

Heading into the last month of the year, the Region is still maintaining a -2% in crime compared to this time last year. The officers continue to keep crime down in the region. The combined efforts of all the men and women from the Region, civilian and officer alike, have contributed to the ongoing success of the West Side Regional Command. Several crime sprees have been halted due to their valiant efforts. Each change in the demands and requirements of the personnel has been met with the bar being set higher.

We would also like to wish Detective Doris Provencio good luck in her new endeavors as she has retired from the El Paso Police Department after a distinguished career.

Westside Officers of the Month

June	2011:	Officer	M. DeMunbrun
July	2011:	Officer	V. LeGloahec
August	2011:	Officers	A. Zamora and M. DeMunbrun
September	2011:	Officer	R. Pena
October	2011:	Officer	D. Ellingson

The above officers were recognized for their hard work and dedication to the community.

Just a reminder, the Citizen's Advisory Board meetings are the fourth Tuesday of every month at 5:30 PM at the WestSide Regional Command. The meetings are open to the public and everyone is invited to attend.

Until next time, I wish everyone Happy Holidays.

Commander Raymond Chaires
West Side Regional Command
El Paso Police Department

Crime Prevention

Ladies and gentlemen,

With the holiday season upon us, we would like to share some basic crime prevention tips to help you avoid being victimized when shopping on-line.

What signs to look for that the business is legitimate.

- Conduct research on what other shoppers have to say about the company you are looking to make your purchases from. Bizrate and epinions are some companies that provide consumer evaluations.
- Utilize third-party seals of approval such as from the Better Business Bureau Online and TRUSTe. Click on the logos to make sure they send you to the company that created them as their credibility.



[Better Business Bureau Online—\(BBBOnline\)](#)



[TRUSTe](#)

Make sure that your web browser is current. A current web browser contains up to date security.

Look for signs that the website you are making your purchase from is secure and protects your data.

- Look for an “s” after the *http* on the web address of the webpage that you will be entering your personal billing information. This “s” informs you that your information is being encrypted which scrambles your information once entered.
- Look for a tiny padlock either on the address bar or on the lower right portion of the window.



Source: <http://www.microsoft.com/security/online-privacy/online-shopping.aspx>

**SPOTLIGHT:
DRIVING WHILE
OPERATING A
CELL PHONE**

Drivers are reminded of El Paso City Code 12.22.10 Use of Wireless Communications While Driving. This ordinance prohibits talking on a cell phone unless using a wireless device which was passed March 9, 2010. The Ordinance is as follows:

12.22.10 Use of Wireless Communications While Driving

- A. An operator of a motor vehicle may not use a wireless communication device while operating a motor vehicle.
- B. This section does not apply to an operator of a motor vehicle using a wireless communications device:
 - 1. while the vehicle is stopped; or
 - 2. that is affixed to the vehicle and used as a global positioning or navigation system.
- C. It is an affirmative defense to prosecution of an offense under this section if a wireless communications device is used:
 - 1. for obtaining emergency assistance to report a traffic accident, medical emergency, or serious traffic hazard, or to prevent a crime about to be committed;
 - 2. in the reasonable belief that a person's life or safety is in immediate danger; or
 - 3. solely in a voice-activated or other hands-free mode.
- D. To the extent that this section conflicts with the Texas Transportation Code Section 545.424, regarding the use of wireless communication devices while operating a motor vehicle by minors, or Texas Transportation Code Section 545.425, regarding the use of wireless communications devices in school crossing zones, or by the operators of school busses, this section does not apply.

12.22.10 Definitions

- A. "Hands-free device" means speakerphone capability or a telephone attachment to other piece of equipment, regardless of whether permanently installed in the motor vehicle, that allows use of the wireless device without use of either of the operator's hands.
- B. "Stop" or "Stopped" means to stand an occupied or unoccupied vehicle in a location other than a lane of traffic on a roadway.
- C. "Wireless Communications Device" has the meaning assigned in Section 545.425 (Use of Wireless Communications Device; Offense) of the Texas Transportation Code.

From January 1 until December 15, the Westside Regional Command Center has issued 1766 citations for citizens using their cell phones while operating a motor vehicle stemming from 2066 contacts.

There are several varieties of hands free devices available for consumers to purchase ranging from those using blue tooth technologies to those requiring a wire to be plugged in to the device to even the vehicle itself. With several options available, please take advantage of any one of these accessories. The primary focus for drivers is to arrive at their destinations safely and alive. We encourage all of you to remember that operating a motor vehicle while operating an electronic device is not suggested nor a safe combination.



El Paso Police Department

“Dedicated to Serve”

The El Paso Police Department's [Mission Statement](#) outlines the importance of community policing efforts. The ever-changing job of law enforcement, especially on the local level, is only fulfilled when its philosophy and efforts are reflective of the community it serves. Community policing is more than just a philosophy, it is a cooperative relationship and attitude toward problem solving and investing in the community's present and future. Community policing efforts affect all aspects of a police officer's daily duties. The focus is on the community, working with concerned and responsible citizens in an effort to improve the quality of life in the City of El Paso.

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Information:
(915) 585-6100**

**Administration:
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**Detective's
Section:
(915) 585-6150**

**Records
Section:
(915) 585-6106**

**Traffic Tickets:
(915) 585-6190
(915) 585-6191**

**Crime
Prevention:
(915) 585-6124**

**Traffic:
(915) 585-6081**