



Pebble Hills Regional Command News Beat

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Commander's Perspective...

By Commander Patrick Maloney

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Greetings from everyone at the Pebble Hills Regional Command and welcome to 2012 1st Quarter Newsletter. We take the time to complete this newsletter to benefit the community by providing useful information such as crime prevention tips, crime trends, and traffic law information. Please let us know if there is anything you would like to see added or changed in regards to the newsletter. We value your input.

On February 29th, the Pebble Hills Regional Command held the annual awards ceremony for the region. Employees were nominated by supervisors, and the winners were selected by the commander and the lieutenants. The region had a very good year in 2011, so there was no shortage of worthy employees to consider making the decisions very difficult. In the end, the following employees were selected as the Pebble Hills Regional Command employees of the year for 2011:

Supervisor of the Year: Sergeant Juan Castillo (Patrol - Evening Shift)

Officer of the Year: Officer Gabriel Candia (Patrol – Graveyard Shift)
Officer Enrique Medina (Tactical Unit)

Detective of the Year: Detective Andrew Duran (Tactical Unit)

Civilian of the Year: Isaac Mendez (Crime Analyst)

Congratulations to the winners, and again thank you to everyone at the Region for their hard work and tremendous accomplishments in 2011.

Pebble Hills personnel continue to place a heavy emphasis on controlling and reducing crime. Through late March, our part I crime is up by 7% on the eastside as compared to the same time period in 2011. The part I crime statistics as of March 17th are below.

Pebble Hills			
Offense	2011	2012	% Change
Murder	5	0	-100%
Sexual Aslt	11	16	45%
Robbery	23	23	0%
Aslt	701	756	8%
Burglary	86	96	12%
Larceny	853	899	5%
Veh Theft	85	93	9%
*Burg Vehicle	208	146	-30%
Total:	1,764	1,883	7%

The weather is starting to warm up and summer is just around the corner. The warmer weather usually means an increase in crime. Regarding your home, make sure you lock all the doors and windows when you are not home. If you must leave a window open for ventilation, make sure you have something that prevents the window from being opened any further. Burglars look for easy opportunities, and an open window provides just that. Also make sure you lock your cars and take your valuables with you. We are having far too many burglaries of vehicles where the burglars are finding purses or wallets in the cars. If you must leave something valuable in the car, make sure it is hidden and out of view. Leaving an item like a purse, wallet, electronic device, or laptop computer in plain view increases your chance of getting burglarized. Please help us to prevent crime by making sure you lock up your home and cars.

The Pebble Hills Regional Command Citizen's Advisory Board meetings have been moved to the first Monday of each month. Our next meeting will be on April 2, 2012 at 6 PM at the Pebble Hills Regional Command. The meeting is open to the public and everyone is invited. There is a guest speaker each month, and the meetings normally last about an hour. We are always looking for new board members, and joining is easy. Please contact us or attend a meeting if interested. Look forward to seeing you, until next time, take care.

Pebble Hills Officers of the Month

December 2011:	Officer Eduardo Chavez (Patrol – Evening shift)
January 2011:	Officer Charles Burns (Patrol – Graveyard shift) Officer Robert Paredes (Patrol - Graveyard shift)
February 2011:	Officer Manny Balderrama (Patrol – Day shift)

Commander Patrick J. Maloney
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EL PASO POLICE DEPARTMENT INTRODUCES CRIME MAPPING PROGRAM

The El Paso Police Department and BAIR Analytics Inc. recently partnered to provide a new way for the public to stay informed about crime in area, sign up for neighborhood watch reports that automatically email a breakdown of recent crime activity, and submit an anonymous tip about a crime directly to their law enforcement agency. RAIDS Online automatically syncs with the El Paso Police Department's records system to keep crime information updated online and in the mobile app. RAIDS Online cleans and geocodes the crime data, then displays all of the incidents on a map, grid and analytics dashboard along with some basic information about the incidents, including the type of crime, location type, block-level address, date and time.

"The El Paso Police Department's participation in RAIDS Online highlights their commitment to proactive communication with the public they serve," said Sean El Paso. The El Paso Police Department now has an online crime map called RAIDS Online (www.raidsonline.com) that maps and analyzes crime data, alerts El Paso citizens about crimes in their area, and allows the El Paso Police Department to quickly alert the public about crimes as they occur.

El Paso citizens can view a map and grid with all of the crimes in their Bair, founder of BAIR Analytics, "We're excited to partner with the El Paso Police Department to provide this free service for their public."

RAIDS Online Mobile empowers citizens to better understand crime trends and lower crime in their area. Recent crime incidents are displayed on a map or listed in a grid. Users can click on an incident for more information or display a hotspot map based on the crimes that are currently in display. Users can also sign up for neighborhood watch reports that automatically email any recent crime activity on a daily, weekly or monthly schedule. The app makes all of this information accessible anywhere from a user's mobile device. The RAIDS Online Mobile app is available for FREE on the App Store.

Anyone interested in viewing the El Paso Police Departments Crime Map may do so by visiting: www.eppd.org and selecting the crime map tab on the homepage.

Burglary Prevention Tips

As the days get warmer this spring we all eternally return to the great outdoors and begin to enjoy the many blessing that the El Paso weather brings us. People return to working on their beloved yards, kids begin to play outdoors and for many of us, we return to our favorite pastime of cruising with our windows down. For most of us, we all enjoy being outdoors. Whether we're taking a brisk walk or sitting out front watching life pass by. It's human nature.

Unfortunately, the warmer weather also brings out elements in society that come out and roam our neighborhoods looking to take full advantage of the innocent citizens of our City. These individuals are out there just waiting for an opportunity to take possession of other people's property. They don't care if you're a single parent struggling to get by in life or a financially secure family. Burglars love to steal property and they would like nothing more than to find and unsecured home or vehicle. Burglars will steal from you without hesitation, and we must all do our part and take precautions to keep from being victimized from these criminals.

With simple planning and a conscientious effort to secure your homes and vehicles you can greatly decrease the chances of becoming a victim of a burglary. There are statistics that may indicate a certain day of the week that thefts occur more frequently than then the other, but you shouldn't bet on crime trends. Its best that we secure our property at all times because a burglary of a home and vehicle can occur at any time of the day, on any day of the week and at any location. Whether you're at home or out working out at the gym; a burglary can happen and we must take precautions to reduce your chances of being victimized.

The following precautions can go a long way in reducing your risk of a burglary:

- Always lock your doors and windows when you're not home.
- Never leave your curtains or blinds open when you're not home. You don't want to advertise your belongings to a criminal.
- If possible, pad lock your side gates leading into your backyard.
- If not already in place, install a deadbolt on your front and back doors.
- Look into adding additional security features on your windows, such as inexpensive wing nut clamps.
- If you're not in your vehicle, always keep the windows up and doors locked.
- Don't leave valuables visible to outsiders. Place them in your trunk or tucked away from sight.
- If not already installed, think about a security system for your vehicle.
- Park in high traffic areas and well lit areas.
- Always know where your keys are and keep them secured.

Remember most burglars are opportunist and they would love nothing more than to take advantage of citizens that leave windows open and doors unlocked.

Traffic Control

Hello, I hope that everyone is doing well. I'm going to start off by going over a few statistics and how our Traffic Unit is addressing high collision intersections in the Pebble Hills area. Through mid March there has been one fatality in 2012 compared to ten in 2011. For the entire City of El Paso there have been two fatalities in 2012 compared to sixteen in 2011. I hope that we can continue this trend throughout the year with the ultimate goal being no more fatalities. There have been 4,331 accident reports completed by the PHRCC Officers in 2012, this is through March 16, 2012. There were 4,402 for the same period in 2011. These numbers do not include accidents when drivers exchanged information and left or cases where an officer arrived and no report was completed. As you can see these numbers are quite high. As always enforcement and educating the public on traffic stops are part of the solution, but the bigger part is as simple as each one of us becoming better more responsible drivers.

Throughout recent years several of the PHRCC major intersections have been ranked at the top or near the top for number of collisions occurred which is something that our Region is not proud of. At the start of the year we assigned a traffic officer to each of those intersections, and asked that the respective officer attempt to be at his intersection a few hours each work day. So far, those intersections have fallen in ranking based on the Department's Monthly accident reports provided by the Headquarters Traffic Section. The officers are addressing these sites while still handling accidents, conducting enforcement in other areas, and addressing traffic complaint sites.

One of the major contributing factors in accidents is following to close causing a rear end collision. I have attached the specific law out of the Texas Transportation Code so that he may be of use to you and anyone you may share it with.

Sec. 545.062. FOLLOWING DISTANCE. (a) An operator shall, if following another vehicle, maintain an assured clear distance between the two vehicles so that, considering the speed of the vehicles, traffic, and the conditions of the highway, the operator can safely stop without colliding with the preceding vehicle or veering into another vehicle, object, or person on or near the highway.

(b) An operator of a truck or of a motor vehicle drawing another vehicle who is on a roadway outside a business or residential district and who is following another truck or motor vehicle drawing another vehicle shall, if conditions permit, leave sufficient space between the vehicles so that a vehicle passing the operator can safely enter and occupy the space. This subsection does not prohibit a truck or a motor vehicle drawing another vehicle from passing another vehicle.

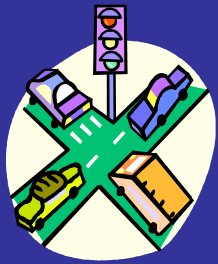
(c) An operator on a roadway outside a business or residential district driving in a caravan of other vehicles or a motorcade shall allow sufficient space between the operator and the vehicle preceding the operator so that another vehicle can safely enter and occupy the space. This subsection does not apply to a funeral procession.

Lastly, we have added Officer Roman Mazza #2329 as a Motor Officer to our Unit. Officer Mazza has been assigned to the PHRCC and has been an officer for ten years. He is also assigned to the SWAT Unit and is certified as an instructor in various areas which will help our Unit maintain mandatory certifications. Officer Mazza has proven to be an asset in the two months that he has been here. Our unit currently consists of two transport/warrant, three freeway, and nine motor officers.

Well that is it for now. As always please take care of yourselves, and obey our traffic laws.

Sgt. Andy Cintron

599-5511



Sgt. Andy
Cintron
599-5511

P.H.R.C.C
Traffic
Supervisor

Neighborhood Relations

Consumers receive announcements every day, by email, US mail and telephone, saying that they are big winners in a lottery or sweepstakes. These announcements are an attempt to scam you. The following information is provided courtesy of the Texas Attorney General's Office:

Lotteries and Sweepstakes

It's a dream come true: you win the lottery and all your financial troubles go away!

Unfortunately, unless it is the real Texas Lottery you won, you ARE dreaming. If you fall for it, it could be a real nightmare.

Many of these attempts succeed. Each year, Texans lose millions of dollars to lottery scams. We urge anyone who is tempted to believe one of these solicitations to STOP. Delete the emails, throw away the letters and hang up the phone. It is a scam.

How it Works

"Winners" are asked to send money. Any number of explanations could be given. They may say it is for taxes, processing fees, or the cost of transferring funds. Regardless of what they may say, it's a scam. **NO REAL LOTTERY OR SWEEPSTAKES REQUIRES MONEY UP FRONT FOR YOU TO COLLECT A PRIZE YOU HAVE WON.**

Scammers know that the amount they are asking for sounds trifling compared to the amount the victim thinks he or she is about to receive when the prize is paid. The victim is thinking that it's worth paying the fee up front because prize will make up for it. But the prize is never going to appear. The victim will simply lose whatever money he or she sends in.

The amount demanded up front may sound small compared to the (imaginary) prize, but it may not be such a small sum to the victim. In fact, in many cases, people borrow or deplete their savings to come up with the money they are supposed to send up front. It is a cruel blow when they realize they have lost their money to a con artist.

FACTS ABOUT LOTTERIES & SWEEPSTAKES:

- You don't have to buy anything to enter a sweepstakes. It is illegal for them to charge an entry fee.
- Buying merchandise will not help you win a sweepstakes. It is illegal for them to give better odds based on a purchase.
- You probably will not win. The odds against winning a major prize in a sweepstakes are huge. You did not win a lottery or sweepstakes that you didn't even enter. They made up whatever story they told you about how they got your name. It is illegal for you to receive proceeds of a foreign lottery. (But you are not going to receive anything anyway.)

REPORT CANADIAN LOTTERY SCAM:

www.phonebusters.com

What to Keep in Mind When Giving: Get information in writing from the charity before giving, including an annual report or other financial information.

- Do not give your credit card number out over the phone in response to a phone solicitation.
- Do not respond to letters that say you have pledged money unless you are certain that you did.
- Do not give cash. Write a check in the name of the charity, or if you are giving other property, ask for a receipt.
- Consult an attorney before making a significant gift, whether making such a gift outright, by will or by trust.

- PHRCC- the Special Operations Section is offering monthly H.E.A.T. Drives at various Eastside business locations. H.E.A.T. (Help End Auto Theft) is a statewide vehicle registration program administered by the Texas Department of Public Safety in conjunction with the El Paso Police Department that helps law enforcement officials identify Stolen Vehicles. The H.E.A.T. registration requires a valid U.S. driver license and proof of insurance. The events are free to the public. For more information, please call 599-5512.



- PHRCC Citizen's Advisory Board Meeting (CAB) - You are invited to attend this meeting on the first Monday of each month (April 2, 2012, May 7, 2012, and June 4, 2012) in the PHRCC Community Meeting Room from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm. Insightful and pro-active Crime Prevention Information is always on the agenda. For more information, please call 599-5512.



- Neighborhood Watch Program (NWP) - The NWP is a corner stone Community Policing approach to Crime Prevention, personal security, and improving the quality of life for the citizens of El Paso, TX. NWP benefits include: preventing crime and reducing fear; bonding block residents; improving citizen and police pro-active initiatives.
- The PHRCC Special Operations Section invites you and your neighbors to start or join a Neighborhood Watch Program. For more NWP information, call Crime Prevention Officer L. Gomez at 599-5898.
- The PHRCC has an active Police Explorers Chapter that provides valuable Law Enforcement information and civic contribution activities for young citizens 14 to 20 years of age. For more information, call Community Service Officer V. Macias at 599-5515.
- PHRCC PAR (Police Area Representative) Officer K. Chew at 599-5602, and PAR Officer M. Canales at 599-5557 are available to answer neighborhood questions or concerns.

HELPFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS:

- Pebble Hills Regional Command Center 599-5500
- Stash- House Task Force 629-8600
- Crime Stoppers 566-8477
- Non-Emergency El Paso Police 832-4400
- Animal Regulation 842-1000
- Code Compliance 599-6290
- Traffic Ticket Information 546-2901
- Graffiti Removal 621-6789
- Volunteer Program 564-7349



Victim Notification

The Texas Constitution (Article I, Section 30) provides victims of violent crime with the right, upon their request, to receive notice about court proceedings and the conviction, sentence, imprisonment, and release of the accused. Local law enforcement agencies and prosecutors have contacts within their offices to provide this information.

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Receiving a notification call

Texas vine:

VINE 24-hour-information on jail status and court events:
877-894-8463

Questions about prison, probation & parole

TDCJ Victim Services Division

Recognizing how important this information is for victims, the Texas Legislature directed the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) to work with Texas counties and the private sector to implement an automated system to provide offender and court status around the clock. The OAG provides assistance in establishing contracts between county/state entities and the central database company. The system operates by networking status information from participating county and state contractors into a central database operated by a private vendor.

Texas VINE (Victim Information and Notification Everyday) is the name of the automated system. It provides crime victims with offender status and court information via a toll-free number and website. While Texas VINE is a valuable informational tool, it isn't a guarantee of safety. Please maintain contact with your local law enforcement and prosecutor's offices.

Preparing to make your first call

Fill out the information card available on the printable version of this brochure.

- When you first access VINE, you will identify the suspect/offender by entering the person's name as a number. To do this, match each letter of the name to a number using the telephone keypad. Use 1 for "Q" and "Z." For example, "John" is 5646.
- You can get the court case number from your local District Attorney's Office.
- The Booking Number is a unique identifying number assigned by law enforcement when a person is booked into the county jail. You will be given the number assigned by law enforcement when a person is booked into the county jail. You will be given the offender's booking number the first time you access the system. If you forget the booking number, you can still access VINE information by entering the person's name in number format. Select a Personal Identification Number (PIN) that is easy to remember.

Locating information on jail status and court dates

- Call toll-free 1-877-TX4-VINE; 1-877-894-8463 from a touch-tone phone. If calling from a rotary phone, please stay on the line to speak to an operator.
- Follow the voice instructions using the information you wrote on the card on the far right panel of the printable version of this brochure. It will save time when you call again.
- If you need assistance, press zero (0) to speak to an operator when the system prompts you to choose an option.

Registering for notification

Texas VINE allows you to register for automatic notification of court events and changes in county jail status. You may need to register separately for each type of notification.

When you register, you will be asked to provide two things:

1. Phone numbers where you wish to be notified. Register as many numbers as you like, including your home and work phone. Do not register a phone that rings to a receptionist or a switch board.
2. Four-digit PIN (Personal Identification Number). Use the PIN you already have chosen. You may use the same PIN with each phone number you register.

Receiving a notification call

Texas Vine will automatically notify registered persons of suspect/offender status and court event changes. To confirm that you have received the notification, enter your four-digit PIN. Texas VINE will keep calling for 24 hours until this PIN is entered.

Texas VINE automatically notifies registered users in English or Spanish whenever one of the following situations occurs:

- the suspect/offender is released or transferred
- a court event has been set or changed
- there is a change in custody status such as death or escape.

Please contact your victim services unit for more information or assistance:

Central	915-577-5222
Headquarter	915-564-7045
Mission Valley	915-873-3614
Pebble Hills	915-599-5675
Northeast	915-759-2046
Westside	915-585-6125

All information obtained from Office of the Attorney General Website: www.oag.state.tx.us.

Citizens' Advisory Board Meetings:

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April 2, 2012
May 7, 2012
June 4, 2012

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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