



MNPD NEWSLINE

THE OFFICIAL EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER OF THE MNPD

January 14, 2014

News from the Chief



Today was historic for the Nashville Police Department as we officially opened and dedicated the Officer Paul Scurry Building at 400 Myatt Drive in Madison. The building is truly our most modern, impressive and state-of-the-art facility, and is like no other among local law enforcement in the State of Tennessee.

The building spans more than 82,000 square feet. Our new, full-service crime laboratory on the second floor is 47,000 square feet in size. The Madison Precinct occupies 35,500 square feet on the first floor, including the 5,840 square feet of community room space. The large community room is a testament to the overwhelming support Madison Precinct officers have received from area residents, neighborhood groups and businesses since the precinct began operations two years ago. It is of note that members of the Madison Chamber of Commerce attended the first roll call on January 1, 2012. They were with us again this morning. In fact, the Madison Chamber worked with Lamar Advertising to salute the Madison Precinct on an electronic billboard in the area of Myatt Drive & Rivergate Parkway. I am extremely proud of our police department's close partnership with the more than 600 community groups throughout the city that engage with us every day to help improve public safety and quality of life for all.

For the next several months, the staff in the crime laboratory will be working through the rigorous requirements of international accreditation. Once accreditation is achieved, and we begin scientific analysis of active criminal cases later this year, the full benefit of the grand Officer Paul Scurry Building will truly be realized.

Until we finish the accreditation phase, laboratory testing of our evidence will continue to be conducted by the TBI. Director Gwyn and the TBI's lab staff have been true partners and offered considerable assistance in the creation of our laboratory. The scientists at TBI do outstanding work, and I deeply appreciate all that they have done and continue to do in the way of helping our officers keep Nashville safe.

By action of Mayor Dean and the Metro Council, our new facility will forever be a tribute to Officer Paul Scurry, my classmate in 1975's Session 1 at the academy, who dedicated himself each day to the families and businesses of East Nashville and Madison. Paul's life was cut tragically short on May 17, 1996, when he was fatally wounded while attempting to arrest a fugitive inside an apartment on Cheyenne Boulevard. Many of the officers who knew and worked with Paul over the years attended today's ceremony, including retired Chief Joe Casey, who personally hired the members of Session 1. Judge Randall Wyatt today reminded me that Paul was enrolled in one of his classes at Aquinas College. Judge Steve Dozier's presence reminded me that his father, the late Major Tom Dozier, provided firearms instruction to Paul and me as trainees. Paul's daughter, Melanie Scurry West, was noticeably touched by our lasting tribute to her dad.

As I reflect on the morning of January 14, 2014, it occurs to me that this marvelous facility, and, for that matter, the Madison Precinct, would not have been possible without Mayor Karl Dean's commitment to public safety, a fully staffed police department and the most modern facilities. I truly believe that history will record that Nashville became a safer and stronger city thanks to the vision of Mayor Dean, members of the Metro Council, and the outstanding, dedicated and committed men and women who chose to devote their professional lives to public service as part of the Metropolitan Nashville Police Department.

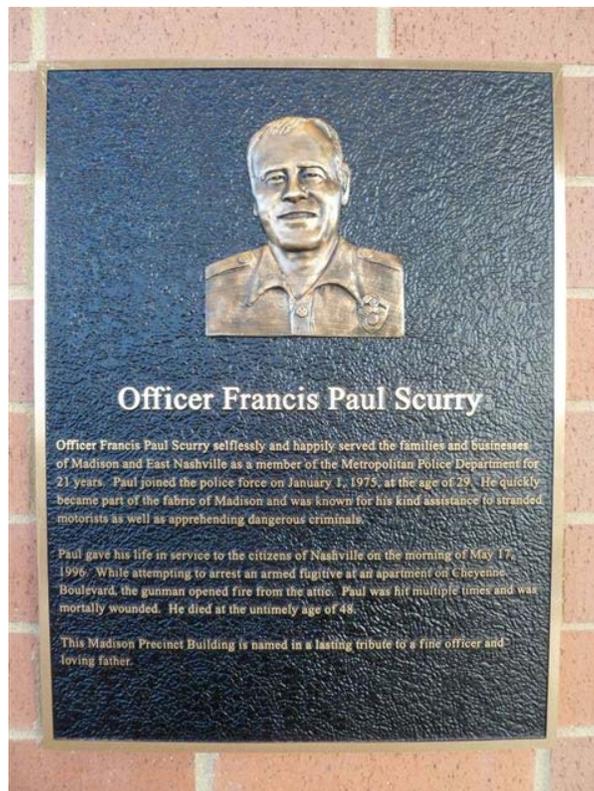
It always seems impossible--until it's done. Nelson Mandela



Mayor Karl Dean & Chief Steve Anderson spoke to a crowd of approximately 200 persons during Tuesday's dedication and official grand opening of the Officer Paul Scurry Building, which now houses Madison Precinct operations and the police department's new full-service crime laboratory.



Melanie Scurry West, daughter of Officer Paul Scurry, cuts the ribbon to the building named in honor of her father as Metro councilmembers, Mayor Dean, Chief Anderson and Commander Sebastian Gourdin look on.





Commander Gourdin presents Melanie Scurry West with a plaque in honor of her father.



Chief Anderson and Commander Gourdin share a moment with the Scurry family, (l-r) Olivia West (Paul Scurry's granddaughter), Virginia Storey (Paul Scurry's sister), and Melanie Scurry West (Paul Scurry's daughter).



Chief Steve Anderson and Criminal Court Judge Steve Dozier joined Melanie Scurry West following today's dedication & ribbon cutting ceremony.

On January 9th Chief Anderson and Commander Gourdin led the 6:30 a.m. roll call meeting in the new building in advance of the grand opening.



Chief Steve Anderson, joined by Madison Precinct Commander Sebastian Gourdin, speaks to officers and detectives during last week's 6:30 a.m. roll call, the first to be held in the new, state-of-the-art, Officer Paul Scurry Building.



First roll call at the new Madison Precinct

The Precinct News

Hermitage

Excellent police work by Hermitage Precinct Officer Mike Eva led to the apprehension of armed robbery suspect Shawn Sullivan as Sullivan hid underneath a parked SUV at the Donelson Pike Walgreens store.

Moments earlier, Sullivan, 21, of Knoxville, had fled into Nashville from Wilson County driving a stolen car after allegedly robbing a Lebanon convenience market. Lebanon police broadcast a description of Sullivan's getaway car, a black 2003 Nissan Altima, which was quickly spotted by an alert Wilson County deputy sheriff. He followed it into Nashville.

As Sullivan approached the I-40 Donelson Pike exit, he realized the deputy was behind him and started driving aggressively. Sullivan got off the interstate and was headed northbound on Donelson Pike when he slammed into a Toyota Prius at the intersection of Royal Parkway. Sullivan bailed from the damaged and disabled Altima and ran up to a car being driven by a 53-year-old man that was turning into an adjacent Taco Bell restaurant. He tried to get into that vehicle, but its doors were locked. By then, Officer Eva was in the area and saw Sullivan run through the parking lot of a nearby Ruby Tuesday and then to Walgreens. When Eva got Sullivan from under the SUV, he was still carrying a .25 caliber semi-automatic pistol.

Two of the three persons in the Prius, a nine-year-old girl and her 66-year-old grandmother, received non-critical injuries and were taken to Summit Medical Center for treatment.

Sullivan was taken back to Wilson County where he is to be charged with the market robbery. Arrest warrants are expected to be sought in Nashville charging Sullivan with attempted carjacking of the Taco Bell patron and vehicular assault.

The Altima Sullivan was driving was reported stolen December 19th from Lexington, Tennessee. Sullivan is also wanted on outstanding warrants in Humboldt, Tennessee, charging him with armed robbery, assault and theft.

A home healthcare worker now jailed on charges that she stole jewelry from a terminally ill cancer patient remains under investigation as Hermitage Precinct detectives work to determine whether she has committed similar thefts.

Sheena Lashunda Gentry, 37, of Hillside Road, is accused of stealing jewelry, including a 1947 class ring, from the 85-year-old victim during the fall. The victim noticed cash and jewelry missing from her residence, notified police and said that she suspected Gentry. Detective Kevin Wallace researched pawnshop records and discovered that Gentry was in fact listed as the person who, on two occasions in September, pawned the class ring, another ring, three bracelets and two necklaces at the same store. The victim's daughter accompanied Detective Wallace to the pawnshop on December 26th and positively identified the jewelry as belonging to her mother. The jewelry is valued well in excess of \$1,000. The pawnshop paid Gentry a total of \$900 from both occasions. .

During the investigation, Detective Wallace discovered that, since 2008, Gentry has pawned 75 pieces of jewelry at various Nashville pawnshops, leading him to question whether other seriously ill patients and their families have been victimized. Family members of persons for whom Gentry has worked over the past five years are urged to reflect on whether any jewelry or other valuables turned up missing. If so, Detective Wallace can be reached at 862-7579.

Gentry, who worked for a Nashville company that provides healthcare to seniors, is licensed by the State of Tennessee as a registered nurse. Nashville detectives have been in touch with state officials and have requested the initiation of administrative proceedings in regard to Gentry's license.

A tip to Nashville Crime Stoppers combined with follow up investigation by Hermitage Precinct Detective Ricky Stewart led the arrest of two men who now admit they burglarized the Cricket cell phone store at 4463 Lebanon Pike.

Christopher Carodine, 21, and Myles Williams, 20, both of 3939 Andrew Jackson Parkway, used a baseball bat to smash out the front door glass and enter the store. Once inside, they broke into a display case, stole several phones and fled.

Detective Stewart and Hermitage Precinct Flex officers took Carodine and Williams into custody at their apartment complex. Both wound up admitting to the burglary and provided written statements expressing remorse. The baseball bat and stolen phone devices were recovered.

South

South Precinct Officer Will Amundson's alert stop of a Ford Crown Victoria for running a stop sign led to the arrest of three dangerous armed robbery suspects believed responsible for firing a shot during a convenience market hold-up an hour earlier.

Tevin L. Johnson, 21, of Bell Road, **Ladarrius Sullivan**, 20, of Kothe Way, and **Nissan Mitchell**, 16, of Dover Glen Drive, are incarcerated this morning on charges they robbed the Kwik Stop Market at 3906 Apache Trail.

Two young men with their faces covered and carrying pistols entered the market at 8:40 p.m. while a third stood at the door and acted as a lookout. One of them fired his gun at an employee behind the counter, narrowly missing him. The suspects yelled "Hands up (expletive)!" The two gunmen then took money from the store as well as the wallet of a customer. The three suspects fled on foot.

At 9:45 p.m., Officer Amundson was in the area of Barclay Square Drive and Apollo Drive when he saw a 1995 gold Crown Victoria run a stop sign. He followed the car and saw it run another sign at Apollo Drive and Una Antioch Pike. Amundson stopped the Crown Victoria. When he and fellow officers approached, they saw blue latex gloves and a black wallet (which was found to contain the identification of the Kwik Stop customer) near Tevin Johnson. In plain view was a small quantity of marijuana stems on the floorboard. Also found in the car were a large amount of cash hidden under the back seat, a ski mask and clothing items that matched the description of that worn by the armed robbers.

Witnesses from the store subsequently positively identified Mitchell as the lookout.

Mitchell is being held in juvenile detention. Johnson and Sullivan are confined to the Metro Jail in lieu of \$150,000 bond each.

Convicted felon Tyquez Ursery, who received sentences of six and eight years just last July for two counts of facilitating armed robberies, is in the Metro Jail after he and an accomplice were linked to two home burglaries in South Nashville as well as two other break-ins in Hermitage.

Residents in the 3900 block of Keeley Drive saw a strange Pontiac backed into the driveway of a neighbor's home and walked over to investigate. As they approached, three men ran from the back of the house, left the car and ran through the neighborhood. It was soon discovered that the back door to the residence had been kicked in.

South Precinct officers arrived quickly and aired descriptions of the burglars. Interdiction Unit officers happened to be close by and spotted two of the suspects running in the 3900 block of Apache Trail. After a brief foot chase, Ursery, 20, and Aaron Counts, 29, were taken into custody. The third individual could not be located.

North

Accused serial burglar Joseph Spurlock is in the Metro Jail charged with home break-ins in South Nashville and Goodlettsville, has burglary charges in Hendersonville pending, and remains under investigation for other potential crimes.

Spurlock, 29, is believed responsible for burglarizing a home in the 2800 block of Ennis Road in November, two homes in the 700 block of Greymont Drive in December, and a home on Hewlett Drive in December. He is also suspected of attempting to break into a home in the 800 block of South Dickerson Road in December. Records reflect that Spurlock got rid of merchandise stolen in the burglaries at area pawnshops.

Multiple warrants charging Spurlock with aggravated burglary and theft are outstanding.

West

Convicted robber and burglar Alexander Leslie Baxter is again incarcerated thanks to an alert citizen's afternoon call to police after seeing Baxter climb a privacy fence and enter the rear of a home in the 2100 block of Portland Avenue.

By the time Baxter, 55, came back outside and got into a car, a police helicopter had flown into the area and ground units were approaching. Baxter abandoned the car, which he apparently intended to steal with the keys he had taken from the residence, and started walking down an alley. Helicopter pilots Sergeant Kurt Knapp and Officer Jon McVey watched from above as Baxter walked behind a home on Fairfax Avenue. When he didn't come around to the front, West Precinct officers surrounded the home and found an open window that led to the basement. Canine officer Spencer Harris and his partner, Iwo, apprehended Baxter hiding behind a water heater in the basement.

Records reflect that Baxter is an ex-convict with a series of arrests and convictions over more than two decades for multiple counts of robbery, aggravated burglary, auto burglary, vandalism and assault. A domestic assault charge from last November is pending.

Baxter is now jailed on charges of aggravated burglary, attempted vehicle theft and possession of burglary tools.

The stop of a 2005 Chevrolet Impala for having an improperly mounted and altered temp tag took guns off the streets and away from two accused felons, one of whom has been wanted for attempted murder since late last year.

West Precinct Field Training Officer Michael Donaldson and his partner, Officer Nathan Silvers, stopped the Impala at 1:15 a.m. at the intersection of Hillside and Argyle Avenues. A marijuana smell was obvious as they approached the car. A search revealed two pistols under the seat. One of the persons inside was determined to be Deanthony Fletcher, 19, who was wanted for shooting at two acquaintances on South 7th Street last November 17th. Fletcher was subsequently booked on the attempted murder warrants, marijuana possession, and unlawful gun possession.

Also taken into custody was the car's owner, Tervon Brittain, 21, who has a felony marijuana conviction from last July. Brittain is now charged with felony gun possession, marijuana possession and altering a license tag.

Specialized Investigations Division

Investigation by Specialized Investigations Division detectives regarding the possible possession and distribution of methamphetamine at an apartment in the 1900 block of Ellington Circle led to Monday's arrest of Louis Bell, 51, who was sentenced just last month to eight years probation for selling meth at the same apartment.

Recovered during Monday's execution of a search warrant were 67 grams of crystal meth, drug paraphernalia and \$2,000 cash.

Bell, the resident, admitted to possessing meth which was located in a safe in his closet. Robert Young, 24, of Loveland, Colorado, admitted to selling the drug to Bell's "customers".

Both Bell and Young are charged with felony drug possession. They are free on \$15,000 bond each. The state is expected to file a probation violation warrant against Bell.

Bell was arrested at the same apartment in December 2012 after undercover detectives recovered 52 grams of meth, digital scales, glass pipes and \$2,420 cash. Bell admitted selling crystal meth during last year's arrest.



Seized meth & cash

More than four pounds of the highly addictive stimulant "molly" destined for the streets of Nashville has been seized as the result of an investigation by Metro narcotics detectives and agents from several federal components.

Daniel Clinton Taylor, 33, who had been residing at a motel on Bell Road, was taken into custody and will be prosecuted federally. The large quantity of "molly," thought to have originated in China, is believed to have cost Taylor \$3,000. He could have made approximately

\$50,000 through its sale to drug abusers in Middle Tennessee. Taylor is a convicted felon who has a lengthy criminal history dating back to 1998.

“Molly” is known to contain the chemical Methylone and is similar to the designer drug ecstasy. The Drug Enforcement Administration issued an emergency ban on Methylone in October 2011.

An investigation begun at the first of the month into the distribution of guns and prescription pills from 1711 Luton Street in East Nashville has landed a couple in jail on a variety of felony weapon and drug charges.

William Paul Rose, 26, and Ashley Renae Thomas, 20, were both found to be involved as Specialized Investigations Division narcotics detectives and ATF agents advanced the case by making undercover buys of both guns and drugs.

Rose and Thomas were arrested following the execution of a search warrant at the residence. Seized were nine firearms and ammunition for them. One of the guns field tested positive for being fully automatic. Detectives also recovered oxycodone, Roxicodone, Xanax, Suboxone strips, crystal methamphetamine, marijuana, digital scales, numerous packaging materials commonly used for the sale of controlled substances, four cell phones and electronic equipment, including laptop computers.



A Nashville woman who received a three-year probated sentence just last November on two felony methamphetamine convictions is in trouble again.

Shawn K. McClanahan, 32, of Cedarwood Lane in Madison, is presently free on \$50,000 bond as the result of her arrest on new felony meth and marijuana charges.

In late December, the Specialized Investigations Division received information that McClanahan was selling crystal meth and marijuana out of her residence. Undercover narcotics detectives were conducting surveillance of McClanahan’s home when they noticed a vehicle

leave the location. The car was stopped for a traffic violation. The driver was found to have three grams of marijuana oil (also known as “wax”) in his possession. The man acknowledged having received the substance from McClanahan’s residence and said that he had seen one ounce quantities of crystal meth there about a week prior.

During a subsequent consent search of the home, detectives recovered 55 grams of crystal meth, 15 grams of marijuana, \$1,506 cash, digital scales, various packaging materials, hypodermic needles and smoking pipes.

Fraud Unit

A Nashville store that sold counterfeit designer and name brand merchandise at a fraction of what real items cost is now out of its illegitimate stock.

As part of an investigation that originally began from a tip to Nashville Crime Stoppers, detectives from the police department’s Fraud Unit made several visits in November and December to Legends Clothing Store at 498-B Bell Road, which dealt in clothing and accessories that bore designer names such as Louis Vuitton, Gucci, Ralph Lauren, The North Face and Nike, among others. During those trips, detectives purchased several items that proved to be counterfeit.

The Fraud Unit obtained a search warrant for the business and executed it, with the support of federal Homeland Security Investigations agents who had also been looking closely at the store’s operations. The counterfeit stock, including thousands of items, was seized. That merchandise, if authentic, would retail for more than \$1.8 million.

“Businesses that root their operations in illegal activity circumvent the sales efforts of legitimate stores and harm the local economy,” Chief Steve Anderson said. “As we have seen in this case and others over the past several months, our police department will take enforcement action when necessary to see that merchants operate lawfully.”

The criminal investigation into those associated with the store is continuing. Charges are anticipated at a later date.



Counterfeit merchandise

Youth Services Division

The Youth Services Division was awarded the 2013 Coalition Spirit of Partnership Award from the Nashville Prevention Partnership.

Youth Services Division Captain Gordon Howey and Detective Michael Sofer accepted the award on behalf of the Youth Services Division from Nashville Prevention Partnership Executive Director DeWayne A. Holman at their Fourth Annual Awards Dinner.

The Nashville Prevention Partnership hosted the awards dinner to recognize and give thanks to the various organizations and groups that have assisted them with their mission of preventing substance abuse.

The Metropolitan Nashville Police Department, the Metropolitan Nashville Beer Board, the Tennessee Alcoholic Beverage Commission, and the Nashville Prevention Partnership entered into an agreement to enforce the local and state alcohol laws. This partnership is an effective measure to ensure the local bars, restaurants, liquor stores and any other establishments licensed to sell liquor are adhering to the laws that govern the sale of alcohol to minors.



Captain Gordon Howey and outgoing Chairperson of the Nashville Prevention Partnership Board of Directors Ana Escobar

Youth Services this Christmas sponsored a family in need. Detective Michelle Hammond became familiar with the family, a mother and her two daughters, during her previous assignment in Sex Crimes. Below are excerpts from a thank you letter the mother wrote to Detective Hammond to express her sincere gratitude.

I want to thank you for all your help and support during the Christmas season. I really want to thank you and the youth department for all the presents that my girls and I received. I want you to know that you made my girls' Christmas a very, very happy Christmas.

I am struggling but somehow going forward. I do not have the right words to let you know how much it means to me the help you gave my family. I am very happy that I met you not for the circumstances but to have found a person to help and support me so much...without you I wouldn't have known what to do.

Please thank every person that had the desire, time and money to help my family. Tell them they made my girls' Christmas a very happy Christmas. God bless everyone.

Police Advocacy & Support Services

Therapist Adrienne Roush-Ewing

As staff in the office of PASS (Police Advocacy and Support Services) reflect back over this past year and give particular attention to those police officers and other law enforcement teams that we have had the opportunity to assist in the aftermath of a critical incident, we have been constantly in awe and have felt so much respect and admiration for the work they do every day as respondents to critical incidents that occur in the city of Nashville.

“We have seen so many officers manifesting resilience in the face of so many horrific incidences and events, however, we also know that there have been times when some personnel – regardless of experience and circumstances – have simply been caught off guard and left to deal with the sometimes surprising, lingering effects that some experiences can have on our typical ways of thinking, feeling and behaving. It’s just human,” states Behavioral Health Services Manager, Dr. Carol L. Harp.

Our commitment here at PASS is to intervene in whatever way we can, with the sole purpose of further enhancing the resiliency of police and other law enforcement staff who have at times been taken by surprise with the way that some critical incidents have impacted them emotionally.

“Just having an opportunity to talk through some of this stuff can have the powerful effect of reducing some of the negative emotions that could eventually impede a person’s ability to fully enjoy their work and service to others,” said Harp.

According to Jack Digliani, a former police officer, current police psychologist and author of *Reflections of a Police Psychologist*, a critical incident, by its very nature, has the potential to overwhelm normal stress coping abilities. He explains that incidents become critical when features of the incident lie outside the normal range of everyday policing and human experience. Such incidents also have the potential to increase significant human distress and can overwhelm one’s usual coping mechanisms. Incidents can range from natural disaster such as floods and tornadoes, to manmade disasters such as plane or automobile crashes, active shooters, terrorist attacks or major crime scenes.

Following a critical incident it is possible to experience no or very little posttraumatic stress, however, it is more likely that some degree of posttraumatic stress will be experienced. Some common responses that can *possibly* follow exposure to a critical incident include:

- 1). Repetitive thinking or psychologically replaying of the incident

- 2). Disruption of normal sleep and dream patterns
- 3). Second guessing one's actions during the event
- 4). Changes in appetite
- 5). Changes in sexual desire and function
- 6). Temporary mood changes.

Taken together, these responses are called posttraumatic stress (PTS). PTS differs from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, which is a group of clinical symptoms which meet the specific criteria for the PTSD diagnosis (including clinically significant impairment for at least one month). More than 80% of Americans will be exposed to a traumatic event. About 9% of those exposed develop PTSD. Among Law Enforcement Personnel the prevalence of PTSD is from 10-15%. PTSD, which can also be accompanied by some degree of depression or other mood disorder, requires professional treatment to produce the most positive possible outcome.

Acute Stress Disorder (ASD) is similar to PTSD however the clinical symptoms must be present for at least 3 days and last no longer than one month.

Research has shown that officers who manage stress and recover from the normal effects of a critical incident do much better if appropriate department and peer support protocols are in place and utilized. Should the stress of a critical incident ever begin to feel as if it's becoming in any way too overwhelming, please don't hesitate to give us a call here at Pass at 862-7887 to arrange an appointment with any of our counseling staff who are each able to provide private, professional and absolutely confidential support.

The Field Operations Bureau Officers of the Month for December 2013

Patrol Officer
Hermitage Precinct Officer Brent Palte

Police Officer
East Precinct Officer Jaime Rice

Investigator
East Precinct Detective Paul Harris

Special Operations
Aviation Unit Officer Donald Kahn

Retirement Celebration

Lieutenant Robert Tindall celebrated 32 years of dedicated service



Captain Randy Hickerson (right) presented Lt. Tindall with a commemorative plaque.

Congratulations:

Officer Brittany Shoemith and her husband, Officer Matt Shoemith, both of West Precinct, welcomed their son Noah Matthew Shoemith.

Detective Nicholas McCluskey, East Precinct, and his wife, Elesha, welcomed their daughter Rebecca Maria on January 14th.



Condolences:

Former Assistant Chief William Donald Barton passed away on December 25th.

Retired Captain Ralph Wayne Peck passed away.

John Henry Brown, the brother of Sergeant Lawrence Brown, South Precinct, passed away.

Fayette Spraggins, the mother of retired Officer Paris Spraggins, and the mother-in-law of Aisha Spraggins, Youth Services, passed away.

Michael R. Bryner, the brother of Sergeant Ben Bryner, South Precinct, passed away.

Ruth Steele, the grandmother of Detective Andrew Chouanard, North Precinct, passed away on December 19th.

Grady Ray Keith Sr., the father of Sergeant Marvin Keith, Central Precinct, passed away on December 29th.

Charles Frank Cassetty, the father of Christl Ray, Domestic Violence Division, passed away on January 2nd.

Jeff Moscinski, the father-in-law of Lieutenant Pete Dusché, West Precinct, passed away.