



# MNPD NEWSLINE

THE OFFICIAL EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER OF THE MNPD

March 21, 2018

## *News from the Chief*



Today I had the opportunity to represent all of you in the police department's budget hearing before Mayor Briley for the new fiscal year that begins on July 1. Departments throughout the government were instructed to present essentially status quo budgets for fiscal year 2018-19, as the increase in revenue is projected to be less than in the prior two budget cycles. We were, however, given the freedom to request funding to continue with projects already underway. For us, two major items that fit that category are a new 9<sup>th</sup> precinct in Antioch and body cameras, which make up a large part of our requested \$13.5 million budget increase.

The city now owns the property that formerly housed the Kmart store on Murfreesboro Pike, which was purchased to house a new precinct. Today I proposed beginning the process of staffing up for the new precinct, 22 new officers each year for the next three fiscal years, which would conceivably allow it to open in the year 2021.

As we continue in the planning process to equip every officer with a body worn camera, as well as cameras in police vehicles, we see a need to promote 24 officers to new sergeant positions, one per precinct per shift. These individuals would be the front-line supervisors for the body camera program and will ensure that video is properly uploaded and categorized. The administrative duties required of our existing sergeants are already significant. I do not want to put additional tasks on them that would further diminish their time in the field. As I told Mayor Briley, it is our request to replace those 24 officers who become new sergeants with the hiring of 24 additional police officer trainees. Also, as part of the body camera program, we are requesting to hire 12 civilian technical experts to ensure that the video storage process operates as it should, and to handle attorney and public requests for copies of video. It is important for all to understand that a body camera program is more than an officer just affixing a camera to his or her uniform and going to work. There is required infrastructure, and persons needed to

ensure that the infrastructure operates seamlessly with the cameras and new MDCs in police cars.

The body camera program has a financial impact in terms of additional personnel and hardware to other areas of the justice system, the District Attorney's Office for example. Over the next several weeks, Mayor Briley and the city's finance team will closely examine the funding needs for the program along with how those needs fall within the overall Metro budget for next fiscal year.

Other of our requested budget improvements for next fiscal year include \$2.3 million to staff city sponsored special events with extra-duty officers, \$129,000 to add three persons to the Records Division to help keep pace with processing court ordered record expungements, and \$37,000 for maintenance of our helicopters.

In my discussions with Mayor Briley since he took office two weeks ago, it is clear that public safety is among his top priorities, and that he has a genuine appreciation for the work being done by all of you.

Saturday, May 5, marks the 10<sup>th</sup> year of the annual Shoney's 5K Family Fun Run, Walk & Festival that benefits the Nashville Police Support Fund. This is an important event in the life of our police department each year, and I hope that you will make plans now to join us for the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The event will once again be based in Nissan Stadium's Lot T, adjacent to the Seigenthaler Pedestrian Bridge. The entry fee for the 5k, which goes through parts of downtown, is \$25 through the end of this month and \$30 April 1-May 4. Teams of 3 or more are \$20 per person. The entry fee for students is \$5. Kids 10 & under are free. More information is available at [www.5krun.shoneys.com](http://www.5krun.shoneys.com).



At the conclusion of the run, a full buffet breakfast will be served in Lot T as one of the best post-race meals in the city. The festival is very family friendly. There will be displays of police equipment, giant inflatables, special activities for kids and live music all morning. Through the generosity of Shoney's CEO David Davoudpour, who personally matches entry fees dollar for dollar, more than \$177,000 has been raised for the Nashville Police Support Fund (a component of the Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee) since the event began in 2009. Seventy higher education grants totaling \$90,570 have been awarded to our officers over the past five years. The most recent awards were made just a few weeks ago. Again, please

plan to join me, your police department colleagues, and Nashville's families for this special event.



**Recent higher education grant recipients**

As you know, on February 16<sup>th</sup> a task force of officers representing all eight precincts, under the direction of Lt. Blaine Whited, began working to interdict juvenile crime in our city. Their results during the first full month of operation are impressive:

- Juvenile Arrests: 34 (ranging in age from 13 to 17)
- Adult Arrests: 55
- Firearm Confiscations: 27
- Stolen/Carjacked Vehicles Recovered: 8

I thank them and all of you for your work to keep Nashville's neighborhoods safe for all. No one knows the lives that are saved by the confiscation of even one firearm from a juvenile or suspected adult criminal.

### **Youth Violence Chaplains**

A reminder that a core group of Nashville ministers has volunteered to respond to scenes of extreme youth violence, regardless of the time of day, to help officers deescalate tensions. The on-call ministers through April 30 are Rev. Michael Joyner (primary) and Rev. Adric Lane (backup). The Emergency Communications Center can contact them in cases of need.

### **Happenings**

The third Collegiate Citizen Police Academy with Tennessee State University students kicked off last night. Mayor Briley and Chief Anderson were on hand to welcome the group who attended the Metro Council meeting. The students will spend the next six weeks learning about police work and the criminal justice system.



### **Employees of the Year for 2017**

Chief Steve Anderson on January 19<sup>th</sup> congratulated 12 outstanding individuals whose conscientious work led to them being selected as the Nashville Police Department's Employees of the Year for 2017.

"The police department's awards committees have difficult decisions to make every year due to all of the tremendous work that goes on in this police department day after day by hundreds of persons," Chief Anderson said. "I am very proud of these 12 men and women and all of their continuing efforts on behalf of Nashville's families."

The MNPD's Employees of the Year for 2017 are:

#### **Community Services Bureau Investigators of the Year: Detectives Anthony Chandler, Brittany Shoemith & Zachariah Bevis—Midtown Hills Precinct**

Relentless investigative work by these three detectives led to murder and aggravated burglary charges against Christopher McLawhorn for the February 28<sup>th</sup> stabbing death of Nashville nurse Tiffany Ferguson inside her Wedgewood Park apartment.

This was a case that shocked citizens in the Wedgewood-Melrose area, and was a rare true stranger crime. Detectives Chandler, Shoesmith and Bevis worked tirelessly pursuing multiple leads until amassing the evidence necessary to charge McLawhorn on March 8<sup>th</sup>. News of the arrest brought relief to the thousands of citizens who live in the immediate area, and Nashville as a whole.



**Community Services Bureau Police Officer of the Year: Officer Michael Osuna—Central Precinct**

While on walking patrol on Broadway in the early morning hours of Sunday, March 5<sup>th</sup>, Officer Osuna spotted a man he believed to be the person of interest developed in the Tiffany Ferguson murder case. Officer Osuna confirmed the man's name to be Christopher McLawhorn, who appeared to be homeless, and was carrying two bottles of alcohol and a small quantity of marijuana. He was booked on the misdemeanor drug charge while Midtown Hills detectives continued to build their murder investigation. Thanks to Officer Osuna's diligence, McLawhorn has been in custody since March 5<sup>th</sup>.



**Community Services Bureau Patrol Officers of the Year: Officers Michael Douglas, Cory West, Michael Baron & Tyler Manivong**

Outstanding teamwork lead to the arrest of the gunman suspected of fatally shooting a 19-year-old woman in the James Cayce public housing development.

A short time after the shooting, Central Precinct Motorcycle Officers West and Douglas were finishing up a crash investigation on Woodland Street when they spotted the suspect vehicle, a gold sedan with a temporary tag, drive by. They, with the assistance of Officers Baron and Manivong in their marked patrol units, stopped the car on I-24 East near Shelby Avenue. Three men were taken into custody.

Three handguns, heroin, cocaine, pills, and \$1,900 cash were recovered from the vehicle.



**Investigative Services Bureau Investigators of the Year: Detectives Kevin Akin & Jill Weaver—Homicide-Cold Case Unit**

After more than a year of investigation by Detectives Akin and Weaver into the disappearance of Nashvillian Nichole Burgess, her former boyfriend, Caleb Cannon, was indicted and arrested for her murder in October 2015. This was a unique arrest, in that the body of Nichole Burgess has not been located to this day. Cannon stood trial in May 2017. Through the work of Detectives Akin and Weaver, it was established that Cannon murdered Burgess at her Hermitage home and transported her body to an unknown location. After a brief period of deliberation, a Criminal Court jury convicted Cannon of 1<sup>st</sup> degree murder.



## **Support Services Bureau Special Operations Officer of the Year: Officer Brian Gregory—Special Response Team**

Officer Gregory's work with Training Academy staff was instrumental in the development of a curriculum for Officer Response to Active Shooters/Killers. Officer Gregory not only helped create a two-day in-service course for officers, he dedicated a tremendous amount of time in making sure it was taught correctly. He was the lead instructor for most of the classes, while still assisting in the Special Response Team's role of tracking down violent offenders in the Nashville community.



## **Professional Support Employee of the Year: Ms. Lisa Davidson—Records Division**

Ms. Davidson serves as the police department's citizen records coordinator and processes requests for police reports, computer reports, closed case files, etc. Her vast knowledge and skill concerning the complex responsibilities of the job help ensure that the requests receive the appropriate responses in a timely manner. In addition, Ms. Davidson's positive and outgoing personality is contagious to her co-workers and others who call upon her for help.



## **Blueline Buddies**

Thanks to P.K. Subban for continuing his Blueline Buddies program that for each home game brings together an officer and their guest with a mentor or representative from a local organization and an underprivileged youth.



**Pictured (l-r) are Big Brothers Program participants Stewart Gott and Jeremiah, P.K. Subban, Monique Bearden, and Sergeant Rickey Bearden.**



**Pictured (l-r) are Todd and Keith from the Big Brothers Program, P.K. Subban, Isaac Gish, and Isaac's dad, Detective Chad Gish.**

## Forensic Services Assessment

The Major City Chiefs Association's Forensic Science Committee provides forensic operational assessments for their membership. Upon Chief Anderson's request, an assessment of MNPD's Forensic Services was conducted. They were extremely complimentary of overall operations.



**Pictured (l-r) are San Diego PD Crime Lab Director Jennifer Shen, Chief Anderson, Philadelphia PD Director of Forensic Science Mike Garvey, and Forensic Services Captain Harmon Hunsicker.**

## Canine Unit Certification

Congratulations to the officers and their canine partners who received Police Service Dog certification.



**Pictured (l-r) are Officer William Holls and Canine Rexo, Officer Dustin Chester and Canine Riggs, Officer John Gilpin and Canine Braxx, Officer Braden Gant and Canine Nash, and Head Patrol Dog Trainer Officer Mark Sydenstricker.**

## New Sergeants

Chief Anderson and the Deputy Chiefs speak with new sergeants during the New Supervisor Course at the Training Academy.



## Fraternal Order of Police-Preds

Sergeant Blake Giles and Officer Michael Thompson treated two children who participated in the Fraternal Order of Police Youth Camp to a Nashville Predators hockey game.



## Precinct News

### East

East Precinct undercover detectives located convicted felon and fugitive Cedric Doss at a car wash on Doverside Drive where he was taken into custody on felony community corrections violation warrants, but the investigation didn't stop there.

Seized during a search of Doss' 2006 BMW sedan were 12 oxycodone pills, one Xanax bar, and \$1,414 cash.

While drafting a narcotics-related search warrant for Doss' 329 Oakview Drive residence, detectives observed Keaire Kirkendoll, 27, who also lives at the Oakview Drive house, and Gary McCree, 34, enter the home where they retrieved a large red bag. They drove off and were stopped a short time later on Brick Church Pike near Bellshire Drive. A police dog indicated to the presence of a narcotic odor inside the vehicle. The red bag was located inside the trunk. It contained more than three pounds of marijuana, a baggy with seven prescription pain pills, two handguns (both stolen), and \$9,450 cash.

Seized during a subsequent search of Doss and Kirkendoll's residence were two loaded guns, a small amount of marijuana, and \$641 cash.

McCree, of Gallatin, Tennessee, is charged with gun possession during the commission of a felony, felony drug possession with intent to sell, and being a fugitive from justice for drug violations in Michigan. He is jailed in lieu of \$326,000 bond. Kirkendoll is charged with gun possession during the commission of a felony and felony drug possession with intent to sell. She is being held in lieu of \$76,000 bond. Doss is charged with three probation violations and faces additional felony charges.



A dangerous and harrowing encounter between an armed 15-year-old, who attempted to draw on an approaching officer, and a 17-year-old who had a pistol within reach, resulted in the apprehension of both teens who are in juvenile detention.

At 11:30 p.m., Officer Christopher Davis noticed a late model silver Hyundai Sonata with a Florida tag at the gas pumps of Z-Mart at 803 Dickerson Pike. A check of the license plate revealed that the car was taken February 4<sup>th</sup> during an armed carjacking on Elm Hill Pike. A young man, subsequently identified as the 15-year-old, was outside the vehicle when Officer Davis went to bring him into custody, prompting the teen to go to his waistband and attempt to draw a fully loaded .40 caliber semi-automatic pistol. A struggle ensued and Officer Davis was able to get the gun away from the teen, who ran away. Officer Davis remained at the car and took the 17-year-old, who was in the front passenger seat, into custody. Between the seat and front passenger door was another pistol, a loaded .45 caliber semi-automatic. That gun was reported stolen by a Kentucky firearms dealer.

As Officer Davis dealt with the 17-year-old, Officer Michael Wolterbeek engaged in a foot pursuit of the 15-year-old and took him into custody near Riverchase Apartments.

The 15-year-old is charged with assaulting an officer, resisting arrest, evading arrest, misdemeanor and felony marijuana possession, unlawful gun possession, and violating the juvenile curfew ordinance. The 17-year-old is charged with vehicle theft, misdemeanor and felony marijuana possession, unlawful gun possession, unlawful use of drug paraphernalia, and violating the juvenile curfew ordinance.

East Precinct Crime Suppression detectives executed a search warrant at 106 Hickory Trace Cove, where they found more than 219 grams of heroin, 16 grams of marijuana, three loaded handguns, three rifles, a 2013 Dodge Charger allegedly used during drug transactions, and \$9,839 cash.

Convicted felon Devonte Jackson, 25, Demetria Ferrell, 30, and her sister Breanna Ferrell, 24, were taken into custody and charged with multiple drug and gun offenses.

All three are also charged with felony child endangerment for the presence of three children in the home, ages 11, 7, and 3. They were released into the custody of a family member.



Lieutenant Doug Vinson and Community Sergeant Mike Fisher met with Public Works employees to discuss workplace violence and provide safety information.



**Lieutenant Doug Vinson met with Public Works employees to discuss safety in the workplace.**

Catholic Charities of Nashville associates with the Loaves and Fishes program stopped by the East Precinct with two full carts of food and drink for precinct personnel. They presented Commander David Imhof with a certificate of appreciation for the many years of assistance that officers have provided to the program which delivers hot meals to the homeless and working poor.



## **West**

The suspected robber of Fifth Third Bank's 5625 Charlotte Pike branch found himself in the back of a police car less than one hour after making his getaway.

Ronald A. Edmondson, 49, is no stranger to bank robbery. He was released from federal prison late last year as the result of his Nashville bank robbery conviction in December 2009.

On January 30<sup>th</sup>, Edmondson, wearing black clothing and a black hooded sweatshirt, is alleged to have entered the bank at 1:15 p.m. and verbally demanded money from a teller. After getting cash he fled. West Precinct Officer Greg McDaniel alertly spotted Edmondson a short time later in a parking lot near Morrow Road and Charlotte Avenue. Edmondson pulled out of the lot driving a black Toyota Avalon. Officers McDaniel and Rob Morris stopped the car on Morrow Road under the I-40 overpass. Money believed to have been taken in the robbery was recovered.

## **Madison**

An overnight home invasion robbery on Ocoee Trail in Madison has landed two of the men alleged to be responsible in the Metro Jail. Three guns were seized. One of them, an AR-15 rifle, was recently stolen during a gun store burglary in Oak Grove, Kentucky.

Lorenzo Butler, 18, and Jamarius Cummins, 20, are both charged with aggravated robbery and aggravated burglary.

The home invasion in the 1500 block of Ocoee Trail occurred at 1 a.m. The 29-year-old female resident told officers that she and her houseguests were robbed at gunpoint of three cellphones, a 42" television, cash, and a PlayStation game system. A shot was fired into a sofa while the robbers were inside. One of the victims managed to dial 911 from one of the phones before handing it over to the robbers. That 911 call remained active for several minutes, enabling dispatchers to pinpoint the location of the robbers as they fled in a silver Nissan car. By the time the robbers arrived at 3029 Barbara Lynn Way, officers were behind the vehicle. The driver of the Nissan, Cummins, was taken into custody immediately. Butler fled into the home on Barbara Lynn Way and was subsequently arrested.

The property taken from the victims on Ocoee Trail was recovered, as were the AR-15 rifle, an Uzi .22 caliber gun that was stolen in Nashville in 2015, and another pistol.

Federal agents are assisting in the firearms aspect of this case.

Madison Precinct officers were in the right place at the right time to quickly intervene in an armed robbery at Falcon View Apartments on E. Palestine Avenue.

Due to recent nighttime robberies in the area, officers in unmarked vehicles strategically placed themselves so that they could keep a close eye on the parking areas. While officers watched, three men approached an individual seated in his car. One of the men suspiciously pulled up the hood on his jacket as he neared the vehicle. Officers quickly approached as the three men tried to rob the victim. All three ran.

One of the suspected robbers, Demecko Ferguson, 21, was found to be carrying a .40 caliber semi-automatic pistol loaded with 10 rounds that had been reported stolen in a Rutherford County gun store burglary. A bag of marijuana and a Tec-9 semi-automatic pistol were found during the search for the other two suspects. The Tec-9 was reported stolen in Nashville in 1998.

Ferguson is charged with aggravated robbery, weapon possession in the commission of a dangerous felony, and possessing a stolen gun.

## **Hermitage**

Outstanding investigative work by Hermitage Precinct undercover detectives led to the arrest of two persons and the seizure of approximately 20 pounds of marijuana, 90 grams of heroin, six guns (two of which were reported stolen), one vehicle, and \$5,945 cash.

Jalen Cooke, 20, is charged with intent to distribute marijuana and heroin, possession of a weapon during the commission of a felony, and two counts of theft. Damenesha Batey, 21, is charged with felony marijuana possession.



## **North**

Officers assigned to the Youth Violence Task Force and Youth Services detectives charged 53-year-old convicted felon John Edward Armstrong with shooting a 17-year-old Friday evening near 40<sup>th</sup> Avenue North and Clifton Street.

Task Force members were in the area when they heard the gunfire, responded to it quickly, and found the victim. He was transported to Vanderbilt Children's Hospital and is expected to recover.

The ensuing investigation led to the identification of Armstrong as the suspected shooter. Surveillance was established at his 22<sup>nd</sup> Avenue North residence. Armstrong was stopped and arrested after he got into a vehicle with inoperable brake lights.

Armstrong was convicted of a felony cocaine offense in 2010 and received a six-year probated sentence.

The motive for the shooting remains under investigation.

A 16-year-old was arrested on February 16<sup>th</sup> for carrying a .22 caliber revolver that had been stolen during a Mt. Juliet gun store burglary.

Officer Edward Conrads, on special assignment to the juvenile robbery task force, saw that the teen immediately picked up his pace when he saw police on 40<sup>th</sup> Avenue North near Clifton Avenue at 8 p.m. During a subsequent consensual interaction with the teen, Officer Conrads discovered the pistol in the young man's right front pants pocket. He was arrested without incident and taken to juvenile detention.

Federal ATF agents have been notified of the stolen gun's recovery.

Four 15-year-olds who led North Precinct officers on a pursuit in a stolen Toyota Prius that ended on Briley Parkway are under investigation in relation to other recent crimes involving juveniles.

Officers were on the lookout for the Prius after receiving a tip that wanted 14-year-old Rico Ransom was suspected of being in the vehicle. Ransom had been a fugitive since he allegedly shot and critically wounded a 17-year-old across from Pearl Cohn High School. Ransom surrendered himself on March 1<sup>st</sup>.

North Precinct officers pursued the teens for 15 minutes after spotting the car at 20<sup>th</sup> Avenue North & Herman Street. Spike strips deployed into the path of the Prius finally caused the vehicle to slow and stop on Briley Parkway. The teens bailed out and ran. Three were quickly apprehended. A fourth was arrested while hiding in a neighborhood on W. Vailview Court.

The Prius was stolen on the morning of February 20<sup>th</sup> on Neal Terrace.

Officers Shannon Forsyth, Keiara Ward, and Katelin Ehrhardt attended a Girl Scout meeting at Joelton Elementary School to talk about police work.



## **Midtown Hills**

Officers assigned to the Juvenile Crime Reduction Task Force last month arrested two 16-year-olds, one of them an alleged carjacker, and a 17-year-old who fled from them in a Toyota Camry that was stolen from the 4100 block of Hillsboro Pike.

Officer Benjamin Spees spotted the stolen Camry on Wedgewood Avenue near 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue South and attempted to follow it until unmarked support units could arrive in the area. However, the 16-year-old driver noticed Spees' police car and fled. Given the weather conditions, Spees did not engage in a pursuit.

A short time later, a Midtown Hills Precinct undercover detective saw the Camry in an alley near the 2100 block of 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue North. As officers approached, the three teens ran. They were all apprehended after a short foot pursuit.

The 16-year-old driver of the Camry was already wanted for an armed carjacking where a woman was robbed of her Nissan Sentra near 2000 Belcourt Avenue. That 16-year-old is being charged with aggravated robbery, unlawful gun possession and vehicle theft. The two teens with him are charged with joyriding.

The carjacked Sentra was recovered after North Precinct Officer Raymond Heymann spotted it on 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue North. Two other 16-year-olds, a boy and a girl, were by themselves in the car and were arrested. He was charged with vehicle theft. She was charged with joyriding.

In an unrelated case, the Juvenile Crime Reduction Task Force stopped a van on Buena Vista Pike near Clarksville Pike for having an expired tag and an inoperable brake light. The 17-year-old driver, when asked whether anything illegal was in the vehicle, replied that there was a pistol. A .40 caliber semi-automatic pistol with an extended magazine containing 19 rounds was found underneath the seat along with a nine millimeter semi-automatic pistol loaded with 11 rounds. Both pistols had been reported stolen. Also in the car was a baggie containing 1.7 grams of marijuana. The 17-year-old was taken to juvenile detention and charged with multiple offenses.

Midtown Hills Precinct detectives on February 18<sup>th</sup> charged a 12-year-old with the armed attempted carjacking of a woman near the intersection of 20<sup>th</sup> Avenue North and Church Street.

The 51-year-old victim from Mt. Juliet was sitting in her vehicle reading just after 9 p.m. waiting for her daughter to finish dance practice in a nearby building. She looked up after two young men approached the passenger side of her vehicle, knocked on the window with a pistol, and pointed the gun at her. She reported one of the young men yelled, "Give me your car, don't make me shoot you!"

The victim quickly drove away while calling 911. Responding officers located the 12-year-old running in the area of 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue North and Hayes Street. A show-up was conducted with the victim and a witness. Both identified the 12-year-old as one of the two persons involved in the attempted carjacking. A search of the area, which included the use of a police dog, did not locate the gun used.

The identity of the second person, who appeared similar in stature to the 12-year-old, is not known. In fact, the 12-year-old lied to officers multiple times before finally admitting his real name. He was taken to juvenile detention and charged with attempted aggravated robbery, gun possession during the commission of a dangerous felony, and criminal impersonation.

Midtown Hills Precinct detectives on January 20<sup>th</sup> charged Jazmine Wheeler, 16, with criminal homicide and unlawful gun possession for the January 15<sup>th</sup> fatal shooting of Jose Gutierrez, also 16.

Gutierrez, of Welshwood Drive, was brought to Southern Hills Medical Center by private vehicle at 1:15 a.m. He had suffered a gunshot wound to the head and was transferred to Vanderbilt University Medical Center where he died.

The investigation, being led by Detectives Brittany Shoemith and Anthony Chandler, shows that Gutierrez, Wheeler and several others were traveling to different locations looking for vehicles to burglarize. While at Arbor Knoll Apartments, Wheeler said she was attempting to hand Gutierrez a pistol from the back seat to the front seat of the car they were in when the gun fired, fatally wounding Gutierrez.

## **South**

A 16-year-old student from Nashville School of the Arts was charged in Juvenile Court after for creating an Instagram post that implied he was going to commit acts of violence at the school. South Precinct officers took the student into custody at his home. The investigation began after multiple persons reportedly saw the Instagram post.

The 16-year-old admitted to officers that he was responsible for the post, which he said was created as a joke.

The MNPD and the District Attorney's Office take threats to our schools very seriously, regardless of the motive, and will launch criminal investigations into them. Teens are cautioned that there is zero tolerance for such actions.

The 16-year-old in this case is charged with making a false report of an emergency, a felony.

Investigation of a neighborhood drug complaint by South Precinct undercover detectives at 1253 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue South resulted in the seizure of nearly three pounds of marijuana and four guns from a man who was already free on bond on marijuana and gun charges.

Johnathan Robinson, 27, is charged with possession of marijuana for resale and firearm possession in the commission of a dangerous felony. He is also charged with theft in that a Mossberg shotgun found in the residence was reported stolen in Nashville two years ago. In addition to the Mossberg shotgun, a Kel-Tec shotgun, a nine millimeter pistol and an AR-15 rifle were also seized.

Robinson was arrested on marijuana, theft and gun charges in April 2016. Those charges are pending in Criminal Court.



This young man was very excited to meet police officers who were on their dinner break. They took time to visit with him and learned that he is a heart transplant recipient.



A citizen's tip coupled with quick police response led to the apprehension of two burglary suspects, convicted felons Davian Greenlee, 36, and Darius Gustus, 24.

South Precinct officers arrived at an apartment in the 5400 block of Hickory Park Drive at 1 p.m. and found the rear glass sliding door shattered. They located Greenlee hiding in a bedroom closet. A loaded handgun, stolen during a 2016 residential burglary in Hermitage, was found near him in the closet. Greenlee was in possession of a crowbar and a bag of marijuana.

As officers continued to clear the apartment, they heard a noise upstairs. Gustus had climbed out a window and was on the roof. He came back inside and was taken into custody. A handgun was later recovered on the roof where he had been hiding.

Greenlee, who was on parole at the time of his arrest, is charged with aggravated burglary, felon in possession of a weapon, and marijuana possession. He has previous convictions for aggravated robbery, aggravated burglary, aggravated assault, and theft.

Gustus, of Chattanooga, Tennessee, is charged with aggravated burglary and unlawful handgun possession. He has previous convictions in Hamilton County for aggravated assault and reckless endangerment.

### **Specialized Investigations Division**

An ongoing investigation into the distribution of cocaine in the Middle Tennessee area resulted in the arrest of three persons and the seizure of eight kilos of cocaine, two guns, and more than \$225,000 cash.

The investigation by the Specialized Investigations Division Major Case Task Force and TBI agents led to the arrest of Alvaro Santos-Mendez, 36, and Hector Herrera, 29, during a vehicle stop. Recovered during a search of the vehicle was \$89,500 cash hidden inside the middle console area.

Officers conducting surveillance at Santos-Mendez' 71 Lyle Lane residence observed Veronica Gomez-Guerra, 42, enter briefly and then depart with a bag of money. During an interview, Gomez-Guerra told detectives that her boyfriend, Alvaro Santos-Mendez, instructed her to retrieve the cash after his arrest.

Seized during the execution of a search warrant at the Lyle Lane residence were eight kilos of cocaine, 16 grams of heroin, digital scales, two guns, and \$127,461 cash.

All three are charged with money laundering. Additionally, Santos-Mendez and Gomez-Guerra are each charged with felony heroin and cocaine possession and felon in possession of a weapon.



Gang Unit detectives arrested accused murderer Jonathan Chatman, 20, at an apartment complex on Buena Vista Pike.

Chatman is charged in the February 24<sup>th</sup> shooting death of Charlie Brown Jr. near the intersection of 26<sup>th</sup> Avenue North and Alameda Street. His co-defendant, Tamarrius Portis, 20, was previously arrested after leading officers on a foot chase downtown.

Investigation by North Precinct Detective Jason Frank led to the identification of Portis and Chatman as the men alleged to be responsible for killing Brown while robbing him.

### **Homicide/Cold Case Section**

Acting on a tip to Crime Stoppers, Special Response Team officers arrested murder suspect Elias Olea for the February 2009 murder of Melissa Ann Tyler Ramirez inside her Hunting Drive home in Hermitage.

Olea, 26, was taken into custody at a Gallatin Pike restaurant on January 23<sup>rd</sup>. He hid in the restroom for a brief time after seeing officers approach.

Olea was age 17 at the time Ramirez was killed. A Juvenile Court petition charging him with her murder was issued in May 2013 after an exhaustive investigation by Homicide-Cold Case Detective Danny Satterfield. Olea was thought to have been out of the country when the charge was brought.

A co-defendant, Christian Gutierrez, who was age 16 when Ramirez was shot to death, was convicted of facilitating first-degree murder in 2015 after the case against him was transferred to the adult system. He received a 20-year sentence.

### **Custom Services Division**

Lieutenant David Leavitt and Sergeant John Bourque attended the inaugural Special Events Summit in Austin, Texas. Representatives from forty agencies met to discuss safety concerns and logistical issues involving the growing number of large special events taking place in cities across the country.



## Youth Services Division

Two pistols seized from a clerk and a customer at Bordeaux Market on Buena Vista Pike during a beer sale compliance check on Friday, March 9<sup>th</sup> were both reported stolen in separate Nashville burglaries. They are among the 546 guns seized by MNPD officers during investigations so far this year.

The .45 caliber semi-automatic gun being carried by customer Edwin Adrian Gutierrez-Soto, 24, which was seen by Youth Services Sergeant Toney Turner as Gutierrez-Soto entered the store, was stolen during a car burglary nearly two years ago on 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue South. It belonged to a Ft. Campbell soldier. Gutierrez-Soto was charged by citations with possessing the stolen gun and misdemeanor marijuana possession.

The nine millimeter semi-automatic pistol behind the counter of the store was reported stolen from a West Nashville home in April 2017. The clerk, Mohammad Zaher, 27, was charged by citations with possessing the stolen gun and selling beer to an underage person.

## Retirement Celebrations

Sergeant Danny Orr celebrated 30 years of service



**Pictured (l-r) are Chief Anderson and Sergeant Orr.**

Detective Rex Davenport celebrated 20 years of service



**Pictured (l-r) are Deputy Chief Todd Henry and Detective Rex Davenport.**  
Crime Lab Firearms Unit Supervisor Don Carman celebrated seven years of service



**Pictured (l-r) are Chief Anderson, Crime Lab Quality Assurance Manager Ann Talbot, Don Carman, and Forensic Services Division Captain Harmon Hunsicker.**

## **Congratulations:**



Officer David Robberson, Midtown Hills Precinct, and his wife, Jessica, welcomed Elanor Rae Robberson on January 18<sup>th</sup>.



## **Condolences:**

Navy Veteran Jason Michael Savage, the son of Debbie Savage, Chief of Police, and retired Detective Ronnie Savage, passed away on February 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Robert Radford, the grandfather of Officer Shane McCormick, West Precinct, passed away on January 15<sup>th</sup>.

Retired Sergeant Doug Broadston passed away on December 18<sup>th</sup>. Sergeant Broadston retired in 1989 after 17 years of service.

Annie Lou Harbin, the grandmother of Officer Rodney Harbin, South Precinct, passed away.

Dorothy Vandyke, the mother of Althea Starks, School Crossing Section, passed away.

Faye Thomas, the mother of Sergeant Derek Smith, Custom Services Division, passed away on January 29<sup>th</sup>.

Moses Emanuel Sweeney, Jr., the father of Kathleen Anderson, Special Operations Division, passed away.

William T. White, the father-in-law of Officer William Clemons, East Precinct, passed away.

Lucille Ragan, the mother of Christine Ragan, Records Division, passed away on February 27<sup>th</sup>.

Frank Coll, the father of Officer Ryan Coll, East Precinct, passed away.

Doris Starling, the grandmother of Captain Jason Starlin, passed away.

Milton Ray Hitt, the father-in-law of Detective James Brown, Auto Theft, passed away.

Norma Schroll-Harrison, the grandmother of Officer Justin Franklin, Hermitage Precinct, passed away on February 4<sup>th</sup>.

Retired Sergeant James Sheets passed away on February 25<sup>th</sup>. He retired in 1991 after 36 years of service.

Retired Sergeant Albert Jaynes passed away on February 27<sup>th</sup>. He retired in 1994 after 35 years of service.

James "Jimmy" Sharp, the father of Lieutenant Jason Sharpe, Office of Professional Accountability, passed away on March 10<sup>th</sup>.

Retired Officer Colonel Frank Muller, 82, passed away on March 14<sup>th</sup>. He retired from the MNPd in 1966 after 13 years of service. He also served in the United States Army.