



MNPD NEWSLINE

THE OFFICIAL EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER OF THE MNPD

December 17, 2014

News from the Chief



I am pleased to report that Officer John Downs was discharged this afternoon from Vanderbilt University Medical Center and will continue his lengthy recovery at home.

As you know, Officer Downs underwent surgery Monday to remove bone and bullet fragments, and to get a better idea of the damage. It was during this surgery that doctors were able to move the entire bullet lodged in the bone near the hip joint. The surgery also revealed that the bullet, which narrowly missed a major artery, caused less damage than

initially believed.

After much evaluation and consultation, doctors now believe that no additional surgeries will be required and that the injury can be mended by natural healing. While this will be a long process, the doctors are optimistic of a full recovery. As he heals, Officer Downs will be significantly restricted in his movement.

Officer Downs' wife, Angie, has been with him throughout this ordeal. She and the family continue to be of tremendous support to him. Captain Dhana Jones and Lieutenant Scot Byrd are coordinating the assistance being provided by friends and coworkers. Fair warning, however: it is not in the nature of Officer Downs to accept assistance. He is much more comfortable providing assistance to others. He is likely to tell you that no assistance is needed. So, if you see something that needs to be done, please check in with Captain Jones or Lieutenant Byrd.

The circumstances surrounding the wounding of Officer Downs by a 16-year-old are difficult to comprehend. From what I have seen, the response to this situation was absolutely professional from the beginning. A number of persons have been impacted by the tragic ending, including Officer Downs, his family, other officers on the scene and the family of the teenager. I am grateful for the support this department and its partners in the clergy have provided and will continue to provide those individuals.

I know that much is asked of us in the police department. At this time of year, I ask you to reflect on your blessings and consider joining me and a large number of your colleagues in

preparing for and delivering baskets of food and toys to needy Nashville families on Christmas Eve morning. This is the 53rd year of our Christmas Basket tradition, which was begun by former Chief Joe Casey. We will finish stocking the baskets by 5:30 a.m. (roll call time) on Wednesday, December 24th, inside the cafeteria of the old Tennessee State Prison located just off Centennial Boulevard in West Nashville. Delivery of the food baskets and toys will begin at 6 a.m. by all police department employees who care to take part. Commander Michele Donegan is once again the police department's volunteer coordinator and "Chief Elf" of the Christmas Basket Program. I thank her and the Christmas Basket leadership team for making this program such a success. I look forward to seeing you at the old prison next Wednesday morning.

As 2014 draws to a close, I want to thank all police department employees for your incredible work, professionalism and dedication. This is a special police department in a special city. I am very proud of your efforts on behalf of Nashville's families and visitors. May each of you and your families have a safe and enjoyable Holiday Season.

This edition's memorable quote: **"When you help someone up the hill, you are a little closer to the top yourself"**. Unknown

Happenings

At the December 11th Season to Remember service in Centennial Park, Chief Steve Anderson placed an ornament in honor of Officer Michael Petrina, who was killed in the line of duty in May, and other police officers killed in service to Nashville's citizens. Former Governor & Mayor Phil Bredesen placed an ornament in honor of homicide victims whose families were unable to attend this year's Season to Remember ceremony.



The National Black Police Association, Nashville Chapter, Toy Drive this year will distribute more than 120 bicycles to families in need. Deliveries this Saturday will include a Christmas bag for each child in the household.



Training Academy Receives International Reaccreditation

MNPD Academy received international reaccreditation in Albuquerque. Chief Anderson, Deputy Chief Huggins and academy staff members Sgt. Tiffany Rhea, Capt. Harmon Hunsicker and Sgt. Marjorie Haworth were on hand.



El Protector

The El Protector Program celebrated ten years of service to Nashville's Hispanic community at Global Mall at the Crossings.



Mothers Against Drunk Driving Recognizes Officers

The following officers were recognized by Mothers Against Drunk Driving for their outstanding enforcement work:

DUI Unit

- Officer Russell Ward 291 DUI arrests
- Officer Russell Wade 291 DUI arrests
- Officer Bradley Nave 290 DUI arrests
- Officer John Roberson 194 DUI arrests

DUI Grant

- Officer Alex Moore 47 DUI arrests
- Officer Jessie Loy 31 DUI arrests

Drill & Ceremony Team

Members of the Drill & Ceremony Team presented the colors at the Titans-Jets game at LP Field.



Pictured (l-r) are Sgt. Ryan Hartley, Detective Cliff Knight, Sgt. Matt Sears, Detective Donnell Barr, Sgt. Misty Hobbs, and Officer Josh Mauzy.

Precinct News

East

During a misdemeanor failure to appear warrant service attempt at a North 2nd Street residence, Officers Barry Demonbreun and Joshua Robertson noticed a small amount of marijuana in plain view.

Seized during a subsequent consent search were more than four pounds of marijuana, drug paraphernalia, and \$1,999 cash.

Two men were charged, including the person wanted for the outstanding warrant.



Seized marijuana, money and drug paraphernalia.

East Precinct officers served Thanksgiving dinner to families in need. Maplewood High School Principal Dr. Ron Woodard coordinated the partnership with Victory Church, United Way, and SCORE.





West

West Precinct detectives charged the operator of a neighborhood market with distributing drug paraphernalia after an investigation showed he was selling brown bag specials that contained the makings of crack pipes.

Ebrahim Albiyani, 38, was arrested during the execution of a search warrant at Obama Market, 626 40th Avenue North. Seized during the search were several boxes of copper mesh and glass tubes, two guns (one of which had a filed off serial number), and \$4,693 cash. Most of the money was hidden in empty boxes behind the counter.

Albiyani is charged with four counts of distributing drug paraphernalia and one count of altering the gun's serial number.



Madison

Sergeant James Vivrette last month took members of Cub Scout Troop number 77 on a tour of the Madison Precinct.



Hermitage

Lieutenant Matt Pylkas attended Donelson Christian Academy's 2014 Career Day and spoke to 10th and 12th graders about working in law enforcement.



North

Officers Gary Shannon and Freddirico Pye conducted a knock and talk at a Cephas Street residence after locating a stolen car used in an armed robbery parked behind the home.

During a consent search, officers found a hidden room behind a dresser. Three juveniles were inside and taken into custody. A fourth juvenile was taken into custody after admitting he assisted the other three in attempting to elude police. Inside the room, officers recovered cash and two loaded handguns.

The juveniles were charged with a weapon law violation, simple possession of marijuana, and loitering during school hours. The investigation continues into their potential involvement in other crimes.

South

A citizen's tip led to the arrest of two 17-year-old burglary suspects who broke into a Bowfield Court home.

South Precinct officers quickly responded at 11:15 a.m. to a report that a pickup truck was backed into the victim's residence. The suspects were seen carrying electronics out of the house. The witness provided a good description of the getaway pickup truck and two suspects.

Officers spotted the suspects traveling on Irma Drive. The female passenger bailed from the vehicle while it was still moving and fled on foot. The male driver crashed a short time later in the 4700 block of McBride Road. Both were taken into custody. Items taken during the break-in were recovered from the truck.

The teens are each charged in Juvenile Court with aggravated burglary, felony theft, and evading arrest.

Youth Services Division

Members of the Metro Police Department participated in a roundtable panel discussion hosted by the Oasis Center's Transitions Program concerning youth violence.

Representatives from Metro Public Schools, Juvenile Court, and Woodland Hills Youth Development Center were also in attendance. The discussion focused on community partnerships with law enforcement.



Pictured (l-r) are Juvenile Probation Supervisor Wendy Buchanan, Officer Gilbert Ramirez, Detective Sgt. Toney Turner, Lt. Ada Thaxter, Youth Motivational Speaker and Author Atlanta Officer Al Duncan, Officer Mark Bennett, and Sgt. Connie Tripp.

Specialized Investigations Division

A major Nashville drug distribution organization believed responsible for dealing in more than 200 pounds of cocaine this year alone has been dismantled after an 8-month investigation led to the identification of 19 mid to upper-level dealers, all of whom are now jailed.

The investigation, led by Metro police officers assigned to the 20th Judicial District Drug Task Force, culminated in arrests and the execution of 51 search warrants throughout the area. Seized were 59 pounds of cocaine, 71 pounds of marijuana, more than \$449,000 cash, 70 guns, 19 cars, 15 motorcycles and 5 All-Terrain Vehicles.

“We know this drug network was responsible for funneling large amounts of cocaine to street dealers throughout the greater Nashville area,” said Chief Steve Anderson, who serves as a Drug Task Force board member along with District Attorney General Glenn Funk.

“Violence often associated with street cocaine sales endangers innocent families and drags down neighborhood quality of life,” Chief Anderson said. “Disrupting this type of cocaine traffic is very important for the overall health of our city.”

“Regardless of a drug network’s complexity, we will devote the resources necessary to fully investigate and prosecute those involved in sending and distributing cocaine, marijuana, heroin and any other controlled substances on Nashville’s streets,” General Funk said. “We will never know for sure the number of crimes that have been prevented by the interdiction that has taken place over the past few days.”

The case began in April after undercover detectives confirmed that **Nicholas Moore**, 33, of 4643 Clarksville Pike, was selling multi-ounce quantities of cocaine. Intense surveillance and investigative work revealed that one of Moore’s cocaine suppliers was **Melvin Reed**, 27, of 4124 Home Haven Drive, who was dealing in multiple kilogram quantities. Reed’s supplier was determined to be **Reginald Cooper**, 31, of 1177 Hunters Chase Drive in Franklin. The man supplying Cooper was identified as **John Childrey**, 35, of 1725 Simpkins Street, who is alleged to have been receiving cocaine from Mexico via Texas.

Two Texas brothers who just days ago are alleged to have delivered cocaine to the organization, **Omar Zamarron**, 30, and **Nicholas Zamarron Jr.**, 24, were arrested at Nashville International Airport Sunday as they were about to board a plane to Dallas. Seized from them was \$34,000 in cash. Both were then charged with money laundering and, like the other defendants, will be facing charges of engaging in a large-scale cocaine conspiracy.

In addition to the persons referenced above, the following individuals are alleged to have been part of the conspiracy as mid-level distributors of cocaine to street dealers:

- **Jeffrey Doss, 35, of 173 Star Boulevard;**
- **Louis Turner, 35, of 3923 Alameda Street;**
- **Charles Potter, 32, of 1330 Wenlon Drive, Murfreesboro;**
- **Elton Price, 32, of 8102 Bonnafair Drive;**
- **Demarco Moore, 34, of 1037 Center Point Road, Hendersonville;**
- **Royce Lake, 29, of 602 Kerry Hawkins Road, Lavergne;**

- **Thomas Ford, 34, 4100 Pleasant Colony Drive;**
- **Jason Horton, 33, 706 Eric Drive;**
- **Richard Batey, 35, 2600-B Acklen Avenue;**
- **Patrick Stanford, 29, 1327 12th Avenue South;**
- **Julian Rivers, 26, 1177 Hunters Chase Drive, Franklin;**
- **James Bratten, 65, 5011 Rawlings Road, Joelton.**

Defendant **Alexis Springer**, 31, of 608 Chestwick Court, is alleged to have aided the conspiracy by arranging for stash houses and money laundering activities.

Large quantities of cocaine were recovered from two locations: more than 20 pounds from 2231 Kirk Avenue (Childrey's alleged stash house), and more than 20 pounds from 5725 Cedar Ash Crossing (Potter's alleged stash house). The majority of the marijuana recovered came from Potter's Murfreesboro residence and also from Cedar Ash Crossing.

Liens are being placed on at least four properties, the first step in the process to actually seize the land. Those address are:

- 1725 Simpkins Street (Childrey's home);
- 2220 Buena Vista Pike (stash location);
- 2304 Buena Vista Pike (stash location);
- 3700 Brickmont Drive (stash house).

Assisting in this investigation were detectives from the police department's Specialized Investigations Division, MNPD Canine, Aviation & SWAT Units, Flex officers from the North & Midtown Hills Precincts, Crime Suppression Units from all 8 precincts, MDHA Task Force, DEA agents, the 21st and 18th Judicial District Drug Task Forces, narcotics officers from the Rutherford County Sheriff's Office, Lavergne Police Department, Wilson County Sheriff's Office and the Maury County Sheriff's Office.



More than a half pound of heroin that would have been parceled into hundreds of “hits” will not wind up on Nashville’s streets.

Specialized Investigations Division narcotics detectives intercepted the heroin, worth an estimated \$40,000, after it was driven here by a Columbus, Ohio woman. Ana Amador, 34, is jailed in lieu of \$152,000 bond on charges of possessing heroin for resale and driving without a license.

Detectives received information that a large quantity of heroin was on its way to Nashville from Ohio. An undercover detective met Amador, who was behind the wheel of a silver Chrysler 300 sedan, in a parking lot on N. Gallatin Pike in Madison. She actually believed the undercover officer was there to buy the heroin. During a subsequent search of the car, officers discovered the heroin concealed inside a box of laundry detergent. Cash totaling \$1,770 was also seized.

Heroin interdiction continues to be a priority for MNPB narcotics detectives.

A three month investigation into cocaine and crystal methamphetamine distribution in the Nashville area resulted in the arrest of two persons, and the seizure of four pounds of cocaine and more than two pounds of crystal methamphetamine.

Detectives from the Specialized Investigations Division Narcotics Unit purchased cocaine and crystal methamphetamine on seven separate occasions from Salvador Sanchez, 40, and Jamie Santacruz, 44, both of California. The men were in Nashville and were taken into custody after undercover detectives purchased one pound of crystal methamphetamine and more than one half kilo of cocaine.

Santacruz and Sanchez each face seven felony drug charges. Both are being held in lieu of \$525,000.

Assisting narcotics detectives in the investigation were agents from the Drug Enforcement Administration and Tennessee Bureau of Investigation.



The Metropolitan Police Department's continued emphasis on heroin interdiction led to the arrest of South Nashville resident Manuel Lopez and the seizure of approximately one pound of heroin.

Lopez, 40, of 156 Waikiki Boulevard, was under surveillance by Specialized Investigations Division narcotics detectives when he met with an individual to make a multi-ounce heroin sale. Seized during a subsequent search of his residence were an additional two ounces of heroin and \$11,540 cash.

Lopez is jailed in lieu of \$200,000 bond.

Various investigations by narcotics detectives in just the past two months have led to the seizures of more than 10 pounds of heroin in the Nashville area.



From the Office of the Attorney General

Director of Communications Dorinda Carter

Guilty verdicts have been returned in a heroin distribution case that involved the shipment of large quantities of the drug from California to Nashville. A Davidson County jury has found Carmelo Gonzalez-Fonesca, Luis Ibarra-Zamora and Luis Zamudio guilty of possession of heroin for the purpose of resale. The men were arrested last year after metro police intercepted a package containing a kilo of heroin being shipped to a home in Antioch. Inside the home, which was determined to be a distribution point for several heroin dealers, police also found \$15,000 in cash.

“The professionalism and coordination of the metro police department to investigate and act swiftly in this case ensured a successful prosecution,” Assistant District Attorney Amy

Hunter said. "The jury's verdict proves that Nashville will not tolerate the movement of illegal drugs into our community."

A sentencing hearing for the men has been set for January 8, 2015.

Thanks to the work of Detective Mike Roland and the Metropolitan Nashville Police Department, a guilty verdict has been returned in the 2011 case against John Barry Flye. On December 3, 2014, a jury found Flye guilty of voluntary manslaughter in the strangulation death Gwendolyn Denise Williams. Ms. Williams was found dead inside a house on 14th Avenue North on February 19, 2011. Detectives developed Flye as a suspect and he admitted to choking the victim. A sentencing hearing for Flye has been set for January 5. Voluntary manslaughter is a Class C felony and carries 3 to 15 years in prison.

David McClain was convicted of aggravated assault after threatening a Wal-Mart employee with a knife on August 29, 2013. He will be sentenced on January 22.

Congratulations:

Tonya Sawyers, Supply Unit, welcomed Brendon DeShaun Jones, on November 25th.



Condolences:

Retired Major James Roy Herald passed away on November 29th. Major Herald retired in 1998 after 42 years of outstanding service.

Valerie Boyle, the mother-in-law of Detective Clifton Knight, Domestic Violence, passed away.

Sherry Lassiter Rader, the wife of retired Officer Ray "Radar" Rader, passed away.

Beulah Jones, the mother of Charles L. Jones, School Crossing Guard, passed away.

The grandfather of Detective James Thorton, Midtown Hills Precinct, passed away on December 2nd.

Charles Freels, the grandfather of Detective Michael Freels, South Precinct, passed away.

Retired Sergeant Robert H. Chaudoin passed away.

Charles Lee Bebout, the father of Officer David Bebout, Hazardous Device Unit, passed away on December 13th.

Ralph Franklin, the grandfather of Officer Justin Franklin, Hermitage Precinct, passed away on December 15th.

FYI:

Police Advocacy Support Services (P.A.S.S.)

Adrienne Ewing-Roush
Police Crisis Counselor II

Once again the holiday season is upon us and along with it comes lots of demands -- shopping, entertaining, travel, cooking --just to name a few. Whether you celebrate Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa or any other holiday, many people experience this time of year as both fun and exciting, but also fraught with challenges.

When MNPD Chaplain James Duke was a little less than three years old he was witness to his father's death by suicide. While the reasons for his father's decision to take his life have never been very clear, Chaplain Duke states that this time of year is often a reminder of his loss.

"My father was buried on Christmas Eve and I've always wondered whether his choice to take his life when he did in any way tied in with the stresses of this time of year," said Duke, who also pastors a church here in Nashville. He believes his early life experience has made him appreciate the simple pleasures of the holidays and he truly values the time he spends with family. "As I grew older I would always admire other little kids who had their fathers in their lives. I learned that you had to appreciate the family you do have, not just dwell on the losses you've endured."

In addition to loss reminders, a number of factors, including unrealistic expectations, financial pressures, overindulgence and too many commitments can cause stress and anxiety at holiday time.

According to a Consumer Reports Survey 90% of people noted at least one thing that stresses them out over the holidays, a few of which surprising and funny -- because they are true.

1. Crowds and long lines: 68 percent
2. Gaining weight: 37 percent
3. Getting into debt: 37 percent

4. Gift shopping: 28 percent
5. Traveling: 25 percent
6. Seeing certain relatives: 24 percent
7. Seasonal music: 23 percent
8. Disappointing gifts: 19 percent
9. Having to attend holiday parties or events: 16 percent
10. Having to be nice: 15 percent
11. Holiday tipping: 12 percent

Sgt. Kris DeLap, who has recently been more involved with training around issues of alcohol use and abuse among Law Enforcement officers, expresses his hope that police officers will be mindful not to overindulge in drinking in a way that could jeopardize their careers this holiday season.

“Nothing would bring a bigger damper to the Holiday Season than the MNPD losing another good officer to poor alcohol related choices. None of us can afford to lose our jobs, so please be mindful of your commitment to your family, department and community, as you celebrate Christmas and the New Year,” he said. Delap urges officers to make a commitment to their families who are counting on them as providers to avoid drinking and driving. “My hope is that officers will decide not to have even one drink (not even a sip) and then get behind the wheel...once the discipline ball gets rolling there is no stopping it,” he said. Delap added that an officers decision to drink and drive sacrifices the integrity of the department and the trust of the community.

The *Mayo Clinic* offers these practical tips to help prevent stress and depression, especially if the holidays have taken an emotional toll on you in the past.

1. **Acknowledge your feelings.** If someone close to you has recently died or you can't be with loved ones, realize that it's normal to feel sadness and grief. It's OK to take time to cry or express your feelings. You can't force yourself to be happy just because it's the holiday season.
2. **Reach out.** If you feel lonely or isolated, seek out community, religious or other social events. They can offer support and companionship. Volunteering your time to help others also is a good way to lift your spirits and broaden your friendships. Your family, friends and coworkers can also help you talk about the difficult thoughts and feelings that may be arising. Developing awareness of what factors trigger your holiday stress to help you prevent feeling this way in the future.
3. **Be realistic.** The holidays don't have to be perfect or just like last year. As families change and grow, traditions and rituals often change as well. Choose a few to hold on to, and be open to creating new ones. For example, if your adult children can't come to your house, find new ways to celebrate together, such as sharing pictures, emails or videos.
4. **Set aside differences.** Try to accept family members and friends as they are, even if they don't live up to all of your expectations. Set aside grievances until a more appropriate

time for discussion. And be understanding if others get upset or distressed when something goes awry. Chances are they're feeling the effects of holiday stress and depression, too.

5. **Stick to a budget.** Before you go gift and food shopping, decide how much money you can afford to spend. Then stick to your budget. Don't try to buy happiness with an avalanche of gifts.
6. **Learn to say no.** Saying yes when you should say no can leave you feeling resentful and overwhelmed. Friends and colleagues will understand if you can't participate in every project or activity. If it's not possible to say no when your boss asks you to work overtime, try to remove something else from your agenda to make up for the lost time.
7. **Don't abandon healthy habits.** Don't let the holidays become a free-for-all. Overindulgence only adds to your stress and guilt.
8. **Take a breather.** Make some time for yourself. Spending just 15 minutes alone, without distractions, may refresh you.

Finally, it's also important to be aware of a type of depression called Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD) which is related to changes in seasons. SAD begins and ends at about the same times every year. Symptoms of SAD tend to start in the fall and continue into the winter months draining a person of energy and making them feel moody. Less often, SAD causes depression in the spring or early summer. Three-quarters of the sufferers are women, and the onset typically is early adulthood. SAD also can occur in children and adolescents. Older adults are less likely to experience SAD.

If despite your best efforts you find yourself feeling persistently sad or anxious, plagued by physical complaints, unable to sleep, irritable and hopeless, and unable to face routine chores don't be afraid to seek help. If these feelings last for a while, talk to your doctor or a mental health professional.