



BERNALILLO COUNTY  
**SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

[www.bernalillocountysheriff.com](http://www.bernalillocountysheriff.com)

# THE COMMUNICATOR

## FEBRUARY 2020 NEWSLETTER



Hello residents and visitors to Bernalillo County. Please enjoy our February 2020 issue of the "communicator."

We continue our effort to work with you, our community and visitors of our county to continue to provide you with the superior service you have come to expect.

This newsletter is intended for residents and visitors of the County of Bernalillo, the Sheriff's East Area Command, North Valley Area Command, and South Valley Area Command. The purpose of our newsletter is to keep an open line of communications between you, the citizens, and us, the deputies, who are sworn to protect you and your property.

Please feel free to forward this newsletter to any and all your neighbors who are interested news, crime fighting tips, and communication from the Bernalillo County Sheriff's Office. If any person wishes to be placed on the internet e-mail distribution list please forward that request via e-mail to [tgartenmayer@berncov.gov](mailto:tgartenmayer@berncov.gov)

# NEWS FROM THE NEIGHBORHOOD

## NEWS FROM THE EAST AREA COMMAND



The Bernalillo County Sheriff's Department is committed to establishing partnerships between citizens and the members of the department in order to resolve issues throughout Bernalillo County. This partnership is the cornerstone of Community Policing. Without assistance from you, the job of the police becomes highly reactive with deputies going from call to call dealing only with the symptoms of problems and not with perhaps the root causes of the problems themselves. While this provides a short term resolution to incidents, it does little to provide long term solutions and puts our community on the paths to repetitive responses to all too familiar problems.

How does the Sheriff's Department get to these underlying causes of the issues affecting your neighborhoods? While area checks are a large part of what patrol deputies do over the course of their workday, we unfortunately do not have the resources available to assign deputies to neighborhood full time. Emergency calls for service prevent that. So we rely on information from residents to provide us with real time intelligence as to the goings on within individual areas. Citizens are our "force multiplier". When you get involved in the order maintenance of your neighborhood, it drastically increases the overall safety of your area.



There are several ways to get involved. First, and perhaps easiest is to just be aware of what goes on around your neighborhood. This is not being nosy. This is being informed. Getting to know your neighbors, what cars they drive, who their kids are, when they usually work and are away from the house, perhaps when they plan on vacationing allows you to identify suspicious vehicles or persons when they come around. If you see something suspicious, make notes: vehicle descriptions, license plates, descriptions of persons and what they are wearing is all good information. Most importantly, call the Sheriff's Office to respond to the area. Give the call taker all the pertinent information so they can pass it on to the dispatched deputies. Do not approach these suspicious persons, but document from a distance, everything that you can. This is a big help to us in successfully resolving these calls.

Consider establishing a neighborhood watch program in your neighborhood. The County has resources that can assist you with the necessary startup procedure. Neighborhood watches are an excellent way to increase awareness in your area, and a great way to get to know your neighbors. Neighborhood watch signage in the area can also be a deterrent to criminals looking for an easy target. A benefit of watch programs is usually the establishment of a neighborhood emailing list in which information is shared among the residents of the area. This sharing is a powerful tool in increasing awareness of situations that just don't feel right.

Lastly, the County has a Code Enforcement Team made up of members of Zoning, Public Health, County Fire and the Sheriff's Department. The team is responsible for dealing with properties throughout the county that are causing concerns to residents for being substandard. If you have a property in your area you are concerned about, let us know. We can begin the process of investigating the issues on problem properties, and ensure that they are brought up to code.

For those of you that have questions about home security, deputies can assist with this as well. When available, you can have a deputy respond to your home and do a quick walk around, looking to see if basic home security needs are being met. Please call Captain Joshua Kingsbury at 468-7420 to schedule this.

If you have questions about the Neighborhood watch programs, or the Code Team, or any other safety concerns, please contact Captain Joshua Kingsbury directly at 505-468-7420 or email him at [jkingsbury@bemco.gov](mailto:jkingsbury@bemco.gov).

# NEWS FROM THE NEIGHBORHOOD

## NEWS FROM THE NORTH AREA COMMAND

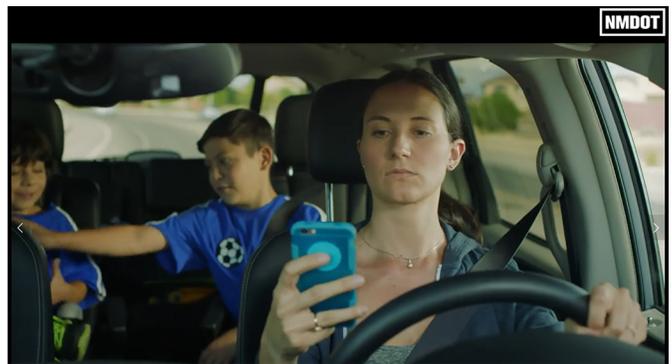
### DISTRACTED DRIVING

Let us be honest. We are all guilty of this. We see it every day in the cars around us during our commutes. Changing music while driving, dealing with an unruly child in the back seat or far more commonly, sneaking a peak at our phone to catch the latest text or email, even just talking on the phone causes serious distraction issues. Distracted driving is not becoming a problem, it IS a problem and we all contribute to it.

Distracted driving is outpacing DWI as the most dangerous violation on the road today, and if we do not do something to slow this, it will only get worse.

Let me try to communicate to you just why distracted driving is so dangerous. Driving is a multitasking activity. There are many small, individual tasks that we do while we drive.; steering, accelerating, braking, signaling, watching same direction traffic, watching opposite direction traffic, watching cross traffic. There is a lot involved in driving. And if there is one thing that humans are not good at, it's multitasking. We are really good at focusing on one thing, not so much with many things. And what exactly is going on while we are driving? Let's pick a common speed limit here in town, say, 35 miles per hour and look at some numbers.

For each mile per hour you go, you are traveling about a foot and a half in distance. That doesn't sound too bad, but let's look at a vehicle going down 4th Street at 35 miles per hour. That is about 50 feet per SECOND. A quick two second glance at the phone has you traveling 100 feet, about 7 car lengths. Face it, that is a pretty short time period, and most looks at our phones are longer than that. A lot can happen in 100 feet. Cars pulling out in front of us. Cars stopping in front of us. Pedestrians crossing streets. Kids riding bikes. And this distance does not account for you seeing and reacting to changing circumstances in front of you. Add in another second or two for that, and we are now talking about a 200 foot lane of potential disaster in front of us, all because we thought that whatever message coming through our phone was important enough for us to endanger not only ourselves, but EVERYONE else on the road. It is not worth it.



We have to learn not to use our mobile devices while driving. We have to teach our children not to use their phones while driving. The cost in damage and more importantly, injury and death is becoming greater with each passing year. It is not worth it.

We here at BCSO are committed to combatting distracted driving in Bernalillo County. We are participants of the Department of Transportation's DNTXT Campaign, and we actively look for drivers using their phones while driving. Using a phone without a hands free device is illegal, and offenders will be cited. Many drivers who are stopped for using their phones while driving often think that we should be out stopping "real crime". Our reply to that is Public Safety is our business, and helping to maintain safety on our streets and highways is a large part of this. Distracted driving causes more damage and injury than you can possible imagine.

BCSO has a dedicated traffic enforcement unit. BCSO Motors/Traffic Investigations is committed to the enforcement of all traffic laws throughout the County of Bernalillo. If you see any traffic violation related issues, please feel free to contact the Sheriff's Office at 505-798-7000, and we can work together to put a plan in place to deal with it. As always, stay safe.

# NEWS FROM THE NEIGHBORHOOD

## NEWS FROM THE SOUTH AREA COMMAND

The South Valley area has received valuable citizen and neighborhood tips about suspicious activity in the past few weeks. Most of these tips have proven to be factual and detectives have been able to secure search warrants for stolen cars, drug houses and other law violations. While tips are always appreciated, please make sure to keep your personal safety in mind when obtaining descriptions or license plates of would be criminals. Your safety and that of your loved ones is the most important thing to us at the Bernalillo County Sheriff's Department.

Deputies with our Gang Recognition Intelligence Patrol (GRIP) and Open Space Unit have been conducting high visibility patrols of the Pajarito Mesa area to curtail the illegal dumping and criminal activity that occurs in the vast mesa area. These proactive patrol operations in the South Valley



Deputies will be conducting highly concentrated traffic enforcement in numerous areas of the South Valley due to numerous citizen complaints on particular streets. These patrols will be at all hours of the day and night. Please remember to drive carefully, at the posted speed limit and with courtesy towards others.

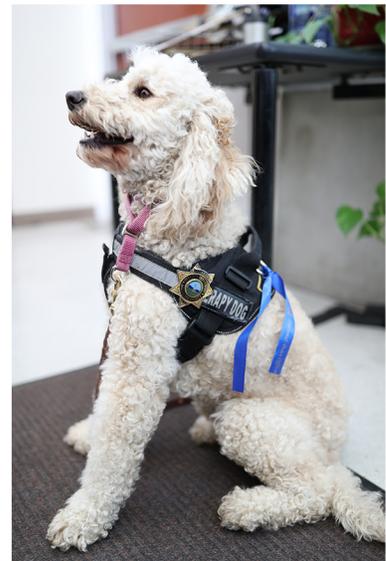
## NEWS FROM THE CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS UNIT

The Special Victims Unit (SVU) investigates adult sexual crimes, crimes against children, crimes involving the elderly, and crimes of neglect and/or abuse of animals. The unit is comprised of eight dedicated detectives who routinely face some of the most heinous crimes against the community's most vulnerable demographic. Detectives in the Special Victims Unit act as a voice and advocate as well as participate in community outreach programs.

Additionally, SVU collaborates with public safety entities such as CYFD, BCFD, APD, FBI, HSI and the NM Attorney General's Office to strengthen cases and increase the outcome of successful prosecutions. Detectives in SVU acknowledge the importance of a multidisciplinary team approach to maximize investigative efforts and the outcome of SVU's collaborations have been recognized.

Recently, the Special Victims Unit assisted the District Attorney's Office with a 2015 cold case investigation which resulted in the arrest of a rapist. As a result of the Sexual Assault Kit Initiative, the Bernalillo County District Attorney's Office has received funding to assist in locating suspects through DNA genealogy testing. The Special Victim's Unit continues to work closely with the Bernalillo County District Attorney's Office in an effort to ensure cold case sexual assaults are not forgotten and victims see justice served in their cases.

SVU, continues to maintain ties to the community through interagency training and participation in the Bernalillo County Sheriff's Department Citizens Academy. This unit's commitment to the citizens of Bernalillo County and the dedication displayed by the detectives represent a valuable component of the Bernalillo County Sheriff's Office.



### PENNY JOINS SVU

Penny was recently promoted to Detective! She has been assigned to the Special Victim's Unit. Penny is a special part of the Sheriff's Office and our community!

# KEEPING YOU INFORMED

## NEWS FROM THE REGIONAL TRAINING ACADEMY

A CSA is an entry level position for those wanting to become Deputies but do not yet meet the minimum requirements to do so.

A CSA assists deputies on patrol with traffic accidents, towed and abandoned vehicles, and delivery of paperwork. CSA's are also responsible for the scanning of employees, inmates and all items brought into the Metropolitan Detention Center using B-SCAN and metal detector.

The CSA program allows CSA's to learn about the Bernalillo County Sheriff's Department's policies and procedures prior to applying and entering the Academy as a Cadet. No minimum employment time required before applying to the Academy.

CSA's are full-time employees\* that will earn \$14.42/hr



**NEXT TEST DATE**  
**February 22, 2020**  
**Apply today!**

### ACADEMY

The Bernalillo County Sheriff's Department Regional Training Academy is an establishment of learning and high standards. While the typical law enforcement academy is only 16 weeks long, our Academy is 25 weeks long. Not to mention that any test score below an 80% is not acceptable during the entire Academy's curriculum. Our cadets graduate with knowledge and skills in criminal law, tactical first aid, mental illness, community policing, firearms, defensive tactics, emergency vehicle operations, advanced active shooter training, and much more. Upon graduation, our cadets hit the streets for 12 weeks of on the job training with specialized field training officers; who guide and monitor them every step of the way. It takes eight and a half months of hard work to become a new Deputy! Start your journey today!!!

### RECRUITING

The 42nd Bernalillo County Sheriff's Office Cadet Class is tentatively scheduled for January 2021. Test dates are now available and applicants can visit BCSO's recruiting website at [www.go-bcso.com](http://www.go-bcso.com) to complete an online application. The hiring process is a highly competitive series of examinations; ranging from knowledge to physical strength, as well as physical and mental health.

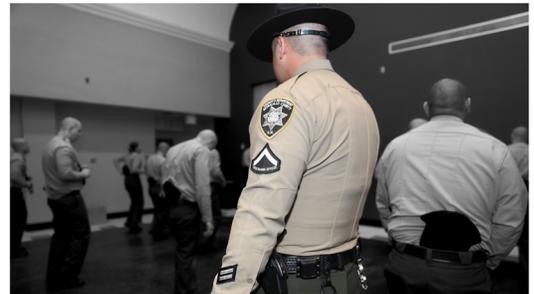
### MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

- Must be 18 years of age or older
- Must have a valid Driver's License
- Must be a United States Citizen\*
- Must have a High School Diploma or GED
- Must pass CSA entrance exam with a min. score of 65%
- Must pass a modified physical agility test, which includes:

### SELECTION PROCESS

- Apply Online
- Entrance Exam Physical Fitness Test
- Online Forms- PEQ, PIO and PHS
- Background Investigation
- Oral Board Interview
- Medical Exam/Drug Screen

- 1.5 mile run- Minimum 14:24
- Push-ups- Minimum 20 in 1 minute
- Sit-ups- Minimum 32 in 1 minute



### BCSO CLASS 41

BCSO Class 41 is off and running! On January 13th, cadets from BCSO took the first steps of their law enforcement careers. We are excited to watch them grow into protectors of our communities! Good Luck Class 41! Keep up the hard work!

### CONTACT A RECRUITER

DEPUTY ANTON MALTBY  
[amaltby@bemco.gov](mailto:amaltby@bemco.gov)  
Phone:(505) 804-0004

DEPUTY JENNIFER GARCIA  
[jegarcia@bemco.gov](mailto:jegarcia@bemco.gov)  
Phone:(505) 804-0000

# KEEPING YOU INFORMED

## NEWS FROM THE JUDICIAL OPERATIONS UNIT



**RECORDS DIVISION**  
400 Roma NW Albuquerque, NM 87102  
Monday- Friday 8:30am-4:30pm  
Phone: (505) 468-7140

## NEWS FROM BERNALILLO COUNTY



### HAPPY RETIREMENT:

The Bernalillo County Sheriff's Department, South Area Command, and Community Enforcement Section would like to thank Lieutenant Tim Lopez for over 26 years of dedicated service to the department and citizens of Bernalillo County.

In June 2018, the Bernalillo County Sheriff's Office transitioned to our own Records Management System. As a result, we can now provide police and accident reports authored by our deputies directly to the public. (Previously the Albuquerque Police Department was the custodian of our records)

Both Albuquerque Police Department and Bernalillo County Sheriff's police/ accident reports may be picked up at our main law enforcement facility located at 400 Roma NW in downtown Albuquerque. Reports are available 10 business days after the incident. There is a small fee charged per page.

Police reports can be picked up in person. If you have questions in regards to this process please contact us.



Lt. Tim Lopez has been instrumental in the creation and continued success of several initiatives based out of the South Area Command to include the Community Action Team, Gang Recognition & Intelligence Patrol, Open Space Unit, Bicycle Unit, and the LEADS Program. Lt. Lopez has served the citizens of the South Valley in many different capacities over his tenure, beginning as a patrol deputy on swing shift for seven years all the way to his last assignment as the Lt. for the newly created Community Enforcement Section.

His dedication to our department and to the citizens of the South Valley is second to none and we wish him all the best in his retirement!

# NEWS FROM THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE



## ST. BALDRICKS- TEAM BCSO!

Several members of the Sheriff's Office have agreed to participate in the annual "St. Baldrick's" charity fundraiser. This fundraiser seeks to raise funds to research a cure for childhood cancer. These participants will solicit donations and shave their heads to raise awareness of this devastating disease. We at the Sheriff's Office are proud to have some of our members giving up their personal time for this worthy cause.

If you would like to donate to this event please contact Deputy Wes Buster at [wbuster@bermco.gov](mailto:wbuster@bermco.gov)



## 4<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL SHERIFF'S BALL

The Sheriff's Office is proud to host the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Sheriff's Ball-Giving from the Heart. The 2020 Charity Partners of this year's ball are Beds4Kidz and the Law Enforcement Torch Run. All proceeds of this event will be donated to these worthwhile charities.

We are still accepting donations of silent auction items. If you, your business, or your organization are able to donate items to our Charity Auction, please contact Michele Martinez at [memartinez@bermco.gov](mailto:memartinez@bermco.gov) or via phone at 505-468-7100. All donations are tax deductible.

## 2020 CHARITY PARTNERS

Beds4kidz  
Law Enforcement Torch Run



# CRIME REDUCTION SAFETY TIPS

## Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month

As the youth of our community grow and develop February has been designated as a time to begin the conversation about healthy interpersonal relationships. Healthy relationships share certain characteristics that our youth should be taught to expect:

**MUTUAL RESPECT.** Respect means that each person values who the other is and understands the other person's boundaries.

**TRUST.** Partners should place trust in each other and give each other the benefit of the doubt.

Honesty. Honesty builds trust and strengthens the relationship.

**COMPROMISE.** In a dating relationship, each partner does not always get his or her way. Each should acknowledge different points of view and be willing to give and take.

**INDIVIDUALITY.** Neither partner should have to compromise who he/she is, and his/her identity should not be based on a partner's. Each should continue seeing his or her friends and doing the things, he/she loves. Each should be supportive of his/her partner wanting to pursue new hobbies or make new friends.

**GOOD COMMUNICATION.** Each partner should speak honestly and openly to avoid miscommunication. If one person needs to sort out his or her feelings first, the other partner should respect those wishes and wait until he or she is ready to talk.

**ANGER CONTROL.** We all get angry, but how we express it can affect our relationships with others. Anger can be handled in healthy ways such as taking a deep breath, counting to ten, or talking it out.

**FIGHTING FAIR.** Everyone argues at some point, but those who are fair, stick to the subject, and avoid insults are more likely to come up with a possible solution. Partners should take a short break away from each other if the discussion gets too heated.

**PROBLEM SOLVING.** Dating partners can learn to solve problems and identify new solutions by breaking a problem into small parts or by talking through the situation.

**UNDERSTANDING.** Each partner should take time to understand what the other might be feeling.

**SELF-CONFIDENCE.** When dating partners have confidence in themselves, it can help their relationships with others. It shows that they are calm and comfortable enough to allow others to express their opinions without forcing their own opinions on them.

**BEING A ROLE MODEL.** By embodying what respect means, partners can inspire each other, friends, and family to also behave in a respectful way.

**HEALTHY SEXUAL RELATIONSHIP.** Dating partners engage in a sexual relationship that both are comfortable with, and neither partner feels pressured or forced to engage in sexual activity that is outside his or her comfort zone or without consent.

## RESOURCES

Teen Dating Abuse Helpline:	1-866-331-9474
National Sexual Assault Hotline:	1-800-656-4673
Trevor Lifeline (for LGBTQ* youth):	1-866-488-7386
National Suicide Prevention Lifeline:	1-800-273-8255
National Runaway Safeline:	1-800-786-2929
National Domestic Violence Hotline:	1-800-799-7233
National Hotline for Crime Victims:	1-855-484-2846
National Street Harassment Hotline:	1-855-897-5910

<https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/tdv-factsheet.pdf>

<https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/ipv-technicalpackages.pdf>

<https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/yv-technicalpackage.pdf>

<https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/sv-prevention-technical-package.pdf>

<https://vetoviolence.cdc.gov/dating-matters>

Unhealthy relationships are marked by certain characteristics our youth should be aware of in order to be able to identify them if they occur:

**CONTROL.** One dating partner makes all the decisions and tells the other what to do, what to wear, or who to spend time with. He or she is unreasonably jealous, and/or tries to isolate the other partner from his or her friends and family.

**Hostility.** One dating partner picks a fight with or antagonizes the other dating partner. This may lead to one dating partner changing his or her behavior in order to avoid upsetting the other.

**DISHONESTY.** One dating partner lies to or keeps information from the other. One dating partner steals from the other.

**DISRESPECT.** One dating partner makes fun of the opinions and interests of the other partner or destroys something that belongs to the partner.

**DEPENDENCE.** One dating partner feels that he or she “cannot live without” the other. He or she may threaten to do something drastic if the relationship ends.

**INTIMIDATION.** One dating partner tries to control aspects of the other’s life by making the other partner fearful or timid. One dating partner may attempt to keep his or her partner from friends and family or threaten violence or a break-up.

**PHYSICAL VIOLENCE.** One partner uses force to get his or her way (such as hitting, slapping, grabbing, or shoving).

**SEXUAL VIOLENCE.** One dating partner pressures or forces the other into sexual activity against his or her will or without consent

**DIGITAL ABUSE.** Using technology to bully, stalk, threaten or intimidate a partner using texting, social media, apps, tracking etc...

Teen dating violence is defined as the physical, sexual, psychological, or emotional aggression within a dating relationship, including stalking. It can occur in person or electronically and might occur between a current or former dating partner. Several different words are used to describe teen dating violence. Below are just a few:

- Relationship abuse
- Intimate partner violence
- Relationship violence
- Dating abuse
- Domestic abuse
- Domestic violence

Teen dating violence is widespread with serious long-term and short-term effects. Many teens do not report it because they are afraid to tell friends and family. Being able to tell the difference between healthy, unhealthy and abusive relationships can be more difficult than you would think. No two relationships are the same, so what’s unhealthy in one relationship may be abusive in another. Although there are many signs to pay attention to in a relationship, look for these common warning signs of dating abuse:

- Checking cell phones, emails or social networks without permission
- Extreme jealousy or insecurity
- Constant belittling or put-downs
- Explosive temper
- Isolation from family and friends
- Making false accusations
- Constant mood swings towards you
- Physically inflicting pain or hurt in any way
- Possessiveness
- Telling someone what they can and cannot do
- Repeatedly pressuring someone to have sex

As teens develop emotionally, they are heavily influenced by experiences in their relationships. Healthy relationship behaviors can have a positive effect on a teen’s emotional development. Unhealthy, abusive, or violent relationships can have short- and long-term negative effects on a developing teen. Youth who experience dating violence are more likely to:

- Experience symptoms of depression and anxiety
- Engage in unhealthy behaviors, such as using tobacco, drugs, and alcohol
- Exhibit antisocial behaviors
- Think about suicide

Additionally, youth who are victims of dating violence in high school are at higher risk for victimization during college. Teens receive messages about how to behave in relationships from peers, adults, and the media. All too often these examples suggest that violence in a relationship is normal, but violence is never acceptable. Violence is related to certain risk factors. The risk of having unhealthy relationships increases for teens who:

- Believe that dating violence is acceptable
- Are depressed, anxious, or have other symptoms of trauma
- Display aggression towards peers or display other aggressive behaviors
- Use drugs or illegal substances
- Engage in early sexual activity and have multiple sexual partners
- Have a friend involved in teen dating violence
- Have conflicts with a partner
- Witness or experience violence in the home

Communicating with your partner, managing uncomfortable emotions like anger and jealousy, and treating others with respect are a few ways to keep relationships healthy and nonviolent. Dating violence can be prevented when teens, families, organizations, and communities work together to implement effective prevention strategies.