

NORTH PRECINCT ADVISORY COUNCIL

Expanding Communication Between the Police and Community

MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

April 1, 2009

Recorded by William Murray

The monthly North Precinct Advisory Council meeting for April began at 7:02 p.m., with Jack Heavner, presiding.

I. Special Presentation Speaker: Detective Michelle Barker, Domestic Violence Unit SPD.

Detective Barker's father Gary Barrett received LAPD's Medal of Valor for his work as a sergeant in LAPD's Homicide Division and starred in a movie entitled *Barrett: A Street Cop Who Cared* about his life and struggles as a Christian police officer.

Detective Barker began her career with the Seattle Police Department as a Patrol Officer and has worked part-time while raising a family. The Domestic Violence Unit has two squads: misdemeanors and felonies, each with eight detective positions and two victim advocates. Detective Barker works on felony cases, which include victims with broken bones, fractured noses, and assault with deadly weapons, strangulation and threats to kill.

The Domestic Violence Unit's case load includes 650 felony cases, of which some became misdemeanors. Detective Barker worked 100 felony cases in 2008 involving case files which must be assembled within 72 hours while the suspect is in custody. Sadly, 50% to 60% of domestic violence victims recant on their stories and the abusers are not charged. Patrol Officers are able to document domestic violence with cameras at the scene which can be very helpful to the cases, although not all cars are equipped with cameras and there were questions on camera training.

North Precinct Officers McNulty and Inouye were recently commended for their work on a 2008 domestic violence case where they interviewed a victim's family members. The Victim Support Team works on behalf of domestic violence victims and will soon be able to use a new website to find all the beds available for sheltering victims in Seattle.

II. Precinct Update: Acting Captain Robin Clark/Sergeant Diane Newsom.

North Precinct Officer Sergeant Benson received the Lake City Elks Officer Appreciation Award.

SPD Blotter: On March 4th at 7:00 p.m., two masked men robbed a store on 99th and Aurora. On March 6th at noon, two bank robbers fleeing an Everett robbery were seen exiting Gasworks Park on foot. The SWAT and Harbor Teams responded and one suspect was apprehended. On March 11th, in the 5600 block of First Northeast a bicyclist was involved in a fatal accident.

SPD Blotter: On March 12th, two intruders at a retirement home on Leary Way were ordered to stop at gunpoint by an officer and one was arrested. On March 26th, at approximately 1:00 p.m., King County Sheriff's Office advised SPD that they were investigating a shooting in the 14800 block of 15th Avenue Northeast. The provided a description of the suspect vehicle. North Precinct officers located a possible suspect vehicle traveling at a high rate of speed, but were never able to catch up to it. A short time later, gang unit officers spotted the vehicle. The suspect vehicle fled and was pursued into the County, then ultimately back into the City ending at Northeast 143rd and Lake City Way Northeast. Just prior to the pursuit ending, an officer was attempting to deploy spike strips when the suspect vehicle intentionally swerved toward the officer. He narrowly missed being struck by the vehicle by jumping out of the way. Two suspects were taken into custody from the car, while the third suspect fled eastbound over a fence.

III. Crime Prevention Report: Diane Horswill/Neil Hansen.

Identity thefts are resulting from cell phone thefts with \$500.00 charges to the victim's phone. Diane suggested reporting cell phone thefts promptly. Diane also reported that flat screen TVs are being stolen because thieves can see them from the street. Neil reported that portable GPS systems are being stolen from cars. Thieves look for holders on the windshield.

IV. City Attorney's Office.

Ed McKenna reported that the Rose Garden Bar on 143rd and Lake City Way was cited for over service violations. A letter objecting to their liquor license was filed with the Liquor Control Board.

V. King County Prosecutor's Office.

Dan Clark, Assistant Chief, Criminal Division, reported losing seventeen positions due to budget cuts and how they prioritize cases will taper off on narcotics case. Car thefts have been reduced over 50% in the past three to four years due to sentencing reforms.

Residential burglaries are on the rise and the Prosecutor's vision is to reduce residential burglaries by targeting the most prolific burglars.

VI. Liquor Control Board.

Judy Lewis asked for any input over bars serving minors or over service..

VII. Next Month Agenda.

Next month's Agenda: City Attorney Tom Carr

VIII. Meeting adjourned at 8:32 p.m.