

## NORTH PRECINCT ADVISORY COUNCIL

### Expanding Communication Between the Police and Community

#### MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

May 6, 2009

Recorded by William Murray

The monthly North Precinct Advisory Council meeting for May began at 7:00 p.m., with Jack Heavner, presiding.

#### I. Special Presentation Speaker: Thomas Carr, City Attorney.

Thomas Carr, City Attorney, finished our series on domestic violence crimes by describing the role the City Attorney's Office takes in prosecuting these crimes. A police officer responding to a domestic violence incident must complete a police report whether or not an arrest occurs. The City Attorney's Office will review the police report to determine whether or not to file charges. If charges are filed, only the prosecutor has the authority to drop them. A judge must approve the prosecutor's request to dismiss a case. The victim is a witness for the City and has no authority to drop charges. In many cases, the City will prosecute a case even if the victim refuses to testify.

Mr. Carr's philosophy is that a crime is a crime against all Seattle citizens. The Seattle City Attorney's Domestic Violence Unit provides Domestic Violence Victim Advocates to assist domestic violence victims during the process of a domestic violence case through Seattle Municipal Court. Victim Advocates will explain the court process, often appearing with the victim at court proceedings. Victim Advocates may be reached at 206.684.7770.

Felony level domestic violence cases are tried in King County courts and the City Attorney's Office has a King County Deputy Prosecutor working in their office reviewing cases to determine if they should be tried as felonies or in Seattle courts as misdemeanors. Mr. Carr spoke passionately about his vision for a Seattle Family Justice Center where "the silos would be broken down" and a domestic violence victim could find all resources under one roof. San Diego has such a system and Chief Gil Kerlikowske advocated for a Seattle Family Justice Center. Mr. Carr also spoke of the success of Seattle's Pre-Trial Diversion Program and Seattle Community Court, which have led to a 40% reduction in the need for jail beds which Seattle leases from King County.

## II. Precinct Update: Captain Michael Washburn, Lieutenant Robin Clark/Sergeant Diane Newsom.

Captain Washburn announced that Lieutenant Robin Clark will be the grand marshal of the upcoming Susan B. Komen Race for the Cure on June 7<sup>th</sup>. The Race for the Cure will draw 15,000 and raise \$2 million for breast cancer research. Lieutenant Clark spoke of her diagnosis of breast cancer 12 years ago while she worked the late shift as watch commander at South Precinct and the importance of knowing your risk factors, yearly mammogram screenings, and making health lifestyle choices. Seattle Post-Intelligencer story on Lieutenant Clark is at [http://www.seattlepi.com/local/406156\\_cancer13.html](http://www.seattlepi.com/local/406156_cancer13.html).

SPD Blotter: On April 9<sup>th</sup>, at approximately 6:48 p.m., an espresso stand in the 7800 block of Lake City Way Northeast was robbed. A white male, armed with a small handgun, between the ages of 25-30, approximately 5'8", 140 pounds, wearing a cream-colored beanie with holes, a black sweatshirt, white t-shirt and blue jeans robbed the barista at the stand.

SPD Blotter: On April 20<sup>th</sup>, at approximately 8:00 a.m., officers located and arrested a 21-year old man in connection with the Northeast 42<sup>nd</sup> and University Way Northeast shooting incident. The shooting incident occurred on Friday night at approximately 8:45 p.m.

SPD Blotter: On April 21<sup>st</sup>, at approximately 2:00 a.m., North Precinct officers responded to a call of a man down in the 8500 block of Greenwood Avenue North. Officers arrived at the location and found an unresponsive man, in his 30's, bleeding from injuries to his head. He was transported to Harborview Medical Center by Seattle Fire Department medics. His injuries have been described as life-threatening. The Homicide/Assault Unit is investigating.

Sergeant Newsom talked about a Pedestrian Safety Emphasis near 65<sup>th</sup> where they gave two citations and found drivers talking on cell phones.

## III. King County Prosecutor's Office.

Deputy Prosecutor Dan Kadish spoke of his work prosecuting Felony Domestic Violence cases and the nature of injuries to domestic violence victims. The King County Prosecutor's Office has some invaluable resources online: <http://www.kingcounty.gov/Prosecutor/domesticviolence.aspx> ; on filing a protection order: <http://www.protectionorder.org/> .

## IV. Liquor Control Board.

Judy Lewis mentioned Liquor Control Officer Jim Otterman worked with officers and the community to serve a fourth violation on a South Seattle establishment.

V. Department of Corrections.

Officer Jeff Seargent is working closely with SPD bike officers in the University District to identify parolees who may be violating parole.

VI. Meeting adjourned at 8:33 p.m.