



# Agenda

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**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**  
**Tuesday, February 16, 2010 4:00 PM**  
**City Council Chambers**  
**200 Lincoln Avenue, Santa Fe, NM 87501**

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of agenda
3. Approval of Thursday, January 21, 2010 minutes
4. Old business:
  - A. NONE
5. New business:
  - A. Update/Status on Red Light Cameras, Speed Van and Hearing Officer (Police Captain Anthony Robbin)
  - B. Burglary Report (Police Sergeant Pete Neal & Crime Analyst Miquela Gonzales)
6. Matters from Municipal Court
7. Matters from Police Chief Aric Wheeler
8. Matters from Fire Chief Barbara Salas
9. Matters from Committee Members
10. Communications from the Floor
11. Adjournment

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**Index Summary of Minutes  
Public Safety Committee  
February 16, 2010**

<b><u>INDEX</u></b>	<b><u>ACTION TAKEN</u></b>	<b><u>PAGE(S)</u></b>
Cover Page		1
Call to Order	Call to Order by Chair, Councilor Ronald Trujillo at 4:00 pm	1
Roll Call	A quorum was declared by verbal roll call. Two Excused Absences.	1
Review and Approval of Minutes of January 21, 2010	<b><i>Minutes were approved without changes.</i></b>	1
Approval of the Agenda	Mr. Mier moved to amend the agenda to move 5A to 5B, second by Mr. Harris, motion carried by unanimous voice vote.	1
Old Business	None	2
New Business a. Burglary Report – Sgt. Neal b. Update/Status on Red Light Cameras, Speed Van and Hearing Officer (Police Captain Anthony Robbin) [Exhibit A]	<b><i>Informational: F/U: Dr. Mier would like to have a geographical report as to where the burglaries are happening.</i></b>  <b><i>Captain Robbin report: no action.</i></b>	3-6
Matters from Municipal Court	Report in Packet, Informational	7
Matters from Police Chief Aric Wheeler	<b><i>Informational</i></b>	7
Matters from Fire Chief Barbara Salas	Informational	6-7
Matters from Committee Members	Staff was directed to follow up on the timing of the light at Jaguar Rd. and Cerrillos Road, timing is very short.	7
Communications from the Floor	None	7
Signature Page and Adjournment	Meeting adjourned at 5:30 pm	7

**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**  
**Tuesday, February 16, 2010**  
**4:00 pm - 5: 15 pm**  
**City Council Chambers**  
**200 Lincoln Avenue, Santa Fe, New Mexico**

**MINUTES**

**1. Roll Call**

**In Attendance:**

Councilor Ronald Trujillo, Chair  
Nancy Owen Lewis, PhD  
Peter D. Mizrahi  
Dr. Mike Mier  
Herbert L. Harris, Jr.  
Frank Stuto

Absent (Excused)

Henry Valdez  
Mike Bowen

**Others Present:**

Chief Aric Wheeler, Santa Fe City Police Department  
Shannon Cantu, Santa Fe City Police Department  
Chief Barbara Salas, Santa Fe Fire Department  
Sergeant Pete Neal, Santa Fe City Police Department  
Captain Anthony Robbin, Santa Fe City Police Department

**2. Approval of Agenda**

Mr. Mier moved to amend the agenda to move 5A to 5B, second by Mr. Harris, motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

**3. Approval of Minutes – January 21, 2010**

**Minutes were approved without changes.**

**4. Old Business**

A. None

**5. New Business**

A. Burglary Report (Police Sgt. Pete Neal and Crime Analyst Miquela Gonzales)  
Sgt. Neal has been with the SFPD for 8 months in the Property Crime Division and has 5 detectives in his division. 3 that work burglary and 2 that

work white collar crimes. He presented an overview of where we are now and where we've been in the last 4 years. There has been an increase in burglaries, peaking during the summer months of last year to a high in July of 112 residential burglaries. There were a total of 820 residential burglaries in 2009. If you look back in 2008 there were 514 and 2007 there were 725. If you go back into the last 4-years the average of residential burglaries are 52 per month. Right now during the winter months we are averaging 55-56 per month. In January, 2010 there were 58 and December, 2009 there were 55. What we are seeing now is an increase in auto burglaries. In October of last year they averaged out to about 115-125 at peak hours. Average for the past 4-years is about 94 incidents per month. January, 2010 there were 85. The good news is commercial burglaries are down; we are at 16 commercial burglaries for January, 2010 which is down 41% from January of last year. The biggest problem is auto burglaries, residential burglaries trend down during the winter and trend up in the summer.

As far as other types of criminal activities related to property crimes, they are criminal damage, vandalism and white collar crimes and are also trending down. [Sgt. Neal proceeded to give examples of cases and outcomes.] Added problems now are the juveniles. Juveniles in the high schools are seeing that they get away with it, they see that the juveniles and gangs break in to homes and cars because they get away with it. The average age of these kids doing the break INS are about 14-15 years old. With a staff of 5 it is hard to keep up.

Chief Wheeler reiterated his request to this committee and to the Council of the importance to hire additional officers. He commends Sgt. Neal for the work that he has done in this position; he said, "He thinks outside of the box, he has been creative, but you can only do so much". Chief Wheeler stated that when Sgt. Neal came into this position he made it very clear to him that this would be an uphill battle. He has done a good job of carrying out the arrests. The other thing we are doing is working with the courts; we have been meeting with the District Attorney's office regularly. We had a good meeting last week where we informed them of the repeat offenders. We continue our conversations with the Mayor and with Judge Vigil who is now the children courts judge; hopefully we can come up with ideas on how we can get ahead. Judge Vigil has a good outlook and knows how to deal with these juveniles and their parents. We also want to talk about programs to get the children involved in the community. We will be turning to the community and asking for help for those kids who don't want to be in school but have interests and need to be valued. We all see the frustration in the court system but we are in hopes that the policy gets stricter. Incarceration is not cheap but we need to have a method to track and control these repeat offenders.

The Chair asked the Police Chief to get the stats for the Councilors of how many burglaries are happening in their districts.

Dr. Mier said that a map would be very helpful if it could show where the burglaries are occurring. It would be good to know when the burglaries are happening. The Sgt. said that a lot of the burglaries happen in the day when people are at work, some in the evening when homes are being watched and they see families leave. Dr. Mier asked if it would help to put the pictures of those frequent fliers in the newspaper and asked if legally we could do this. The Sgt. answered that he is working on this with the city attorney to assure that they are within the law to issue the pictures. Once they are arrested you aren't violating their rights.

Dr. Mier made a good point; there are no boundaries for these burglars. We need to work together with the courts, with the Sheriff's office and our own SFPD to continue the work that is being done.

Dr. Lewis conveyed her thank you for this report and said that many of the neighborhood watch groups should be aware. The Sgt. said that there are burglary prevention classes and one is coming up in the next week for the neighborhood watch groups.

The Sgt. said that if people didn't leave, laptops, cell phones, purses, IPODS and GPS devices in their cars, auto burglars would almost be non-existent. There is so much expensive property in their cars and they encourage the burglars.

Thank you Sgt. Neal for your hard work.

B. Update/Status on Red Light Cameras, Speed Van and Hearing Officer (Police Captain Anthony Robbin) [Exhibit A]

Status on Speed Van: The speed van was put in to operation on October 15, 2009. The speed van issued 1246 warnings to motorists from 15 October 2009 to 30 November 2009 which was the warning phase. The actual citation phase started on 1 December 2009 and between this date and 16 February 2010, 1746 actual citations have been issued which translates into \$170,000 worth of citations. Currently the speed van has been upgraded to be bi-directional, when we first got the van it could only function in one direction. 50 speed locations are deployed on a rotating basis, Monday thru Friday. The speed van is out for 24 consecutive hours during the deployment day. Future plans are to deploy the van during weekends. That will happen when we can employ more personnel. At this time the speed van operation and physical deployment is done by Redflex personnel. Captain Robbin provides the weekly schedule for the van and no one has the discretion to deviate from that schedule. Although it is too early to tabulate data as to the exact safety factor of the van, the motoring public does slow down significantly in its presence. The locations of the speed van deployment are provided to 3 publications

weekly; the Santa Fe New Mexican, The Albuquerque Journal North and El Semanario, for publication. Although not required, a speed sign is posted approximately 300 feet prior to the van to warn motorists. A new sign measuring 24" by 24" is utilized. [There is no highway standard for the 300 feet – we are using that per Arizona's standard]. The actual violation is when you pass the driver's side of where the radar is, that is when the actual violation is recorded.

The Captain affirmed that when people are seeing the speed van parked they are slowing down. Contrary to public opinion it is not only located where we think we are going to get citations.

Finance Issues have been resolved and a lock box account has been established at Wells Fargo. Patrons can mail their violations if they choose to use the lock box address with a coupon which is part of the citation or they can utilize an online credit card link where they can view their violation. Walk in payments are also accepted at the police department. A credit card machine is being connected at the police department should citizens choose to make payment in that manner. In the future when we have statistics on payment ratio it may be considered to do credit collections which Albuquerque is already doing. This option was originally in the initial contract and was removed by former City Attorney Frank Katz.

A Hearing Officer is needed due to the numerous requests received for a hearing. They have 90 days from the request to schedule a hearing and now it is required by District Court to record rules of evidence. There is also a pre-hearing process as a formality to ask if they want to pursue a formal hearing. Presently there are probably over 50 requests. The Hearing Officer information has been submitted for posting with the Personnel Office. SB519 requires them to advertise for the Hearing Officer and the District Court Judge has to select and appoint that person. A definite date for advertising has not been given to the Captain. The first hearing would be by April so this is a critical position to fill.

Red Light Camera: It is his understanding that the construction permit has been signed, what they are waiting for is the indemnification clause. At first he was told that the indemnification clause was not the issue that it was the permit and now they are saying that they were waiting to see if there was any legislation that would affect this action. He stated that both Las Cruces and Albuquerque installed their cameras without issue. Las Cruces began their Redlight program after Santa Fe and had cameras installed at four intersections since March, 2009. As of February 9, 2009, they reported a 50% drop speeding at 3 of the 4 intersections and a 50% drop in red light violations. The city also netted \$234,000 in revenues.

Councilor Trujillo wanted to know who was holding this up at DOT as there

has not been legislation introduced regarding the Red light cameras. The Captain reiterated that he has been told that he is to wait until he gets a call from them, pretty much telling him that it is out of his hands. Chief Wheeler interjected that he and the Captain have discussed in depth the hold up on this important matter. Chief Wheeler has met with the Deputy Secretary from DOT who said after the legislative session they would meet up again. He will continue to follow up with DOT once the session ends this Thursday and get direct answers.

Captain Robbin said when they talked about putting the speed van on the interstate the future technology of the License Plate Reader will be an added feature. The LPR technology can be equipped into the speed van so that the van records and stores a database of all of the license plates that pass by the van. Certain plates (stolen cars, burglary suspects, robbery suspects, Amber Alerts, etc., can also be entered into the database for the van to monitor. If a vehicle passes with one of the entered plates an alert can be sent out to dispatch who can then notify police of the location of the detection. Eventually this technology could also be placed into specified police units for roving detection.

Statistically Captain Robbin reported as an example that when they parked at St. Francis Drive and Cerrillos Road for 24 hours they recorded 10,000 vehicles that passed the speed van which again illustrates the amount of traffic coming in to town. He also stated that he is conscious of the problems at the railroad crossing and one of the others tools available are the railroad crossing cameras which is something to look for in the future. It was asked if it would be the same camera. Vendor answered that it would be a slightly different variation but would look very similar. DOT has yet to approve the striping and the signage, again they are to wait until after the legislature.

Councilor Trujillo interjected that he wants to be assured that the Public Works Department and DOT are in agreement and work out the timing for the red lights and yellow lights to assure consistency. The Vendor commented on the timing, especially the yellow light timing. The camera system has no tie in to alter the timing of the lights at all; it is important to note that when it is red it is activated and when it is not red it is not activated. The timing is not affected by the system at all.

Mr. Harris commented on the statement made that it is activated by the red light. In New Mexico you can stop and make a right turn on a red light. If I turn to the right is it going to take my picture? The Vendor responded that all of this is on video and as long as you come to a complete stop and the light is red and then proceed to the right unless it is marked otherwise; which none of those intersections are marked otherwise, that is a non violation.

Dr. Mier stated that he is not sure why this is happening at the DOT level but

he recommended that a letter from the Mayor's office to the Cabinet Secretary of DOT explaining the PSC frustrations and that this committee would like for this topic to become a priority and to help us get it resolved be sent immediately. Chief Wheeler re-confirmed that he did send a letter to the City Manager making this request and he has not received an answer. This was about 2-weeks ago. The Chief could not answer as to who is stalling this action at DOT.

The question was asked if there would be more man hours needed. Captain Robbin answered that at this time one man is sufficient. The contract says 4 men is the staffing level desired.

Councilor Trujillo expressed his sincerest of thanks to Captain Robbin for his persistence and dedication in getting this project up and running.

#### **6. Matters from Municipal Court - Informational**

#### **7. Matters from Police Chief Aric Wheeler**

Chief Wheeler informed the committee that they have been working on the new administration with commanders on how to staff their offices. After a discussion with the officers a survey was distributed soliciting any ideas from them or if they knew of any other models that would be helpful to the department. Presently staffing is done based on call need, call volume and the distributing areas (9-areas) which are being realigned. Discussion has been the possibility of 3 district areas or 4 quadrants, more information to follow by mid-March on this realignment.

Recently they had 7 cadets graduate from the Academy, there are also 4 additional individuals hired that will attend the Academy in March. They would like to have 6 vs. the 4 in March. This brings them up to 157 of the 159 approved positions for the department. The 8 positions that are going to be granted by the federal government will be filled once the award has been granted.

#### **8. Matters from Fire Chief Barbara Salas**

Announced that they would have a wet down ceremony for Fire Station 10 at the Santa Fe Airport at 3:00 pm, Friday – February 26<sup>th</sup> and she invited the Public Safety Committee members to attend.

**The Santa Fe Fire Department's 27<sup>th</sup> Fire Academy will begin on Monday, March 22, 2010. She extended a future invitation for all or any of the dates below:**

Wednesday, April 14, 2010  
Thursday, April 15, 2010  
Tuesday, April 27, 2010

2:45-4:30 pm Forcible Entry Practical  
12:45 – 4:30 pm – Roped and Knots Practical  
12:45 – 4:00 pm – Search and Rescue Practical



Tuesday, May 4, 2010  
Monday, May 10, 2010

12:45 – 4:30 pm Fire Ground Scenario  
9:30 – 12:00 Noon Saving Our Own  
12:45-4:30 pm Saving Our Own

Tuesday, May 11, 2010

9:30 – 12:00 Noon – Saving Our Own  
12:45 – 4:30 pm – Saving Our Own

Wednesday, May 12, 2010

12:45 – 5:00 pm – Salvage and Overhaul

Friday, May 14, 2010

7:30 -4:30 pm – Travel to NMSFF in Socorro,  
NM for Physical Training, Putting it Together/Ladder and Fire Streams, Lunch, Live Burns  
Scenarios, Return Travel

Please RSVP to Fire Chief Barbara Salas, Office: 505-955-3112 or  
bsalas@santafenm.gov

## **9. Matters from Committee Members**

**Dr. Mier made a request to have the light at Jaguar Rd. and Cerrillos Rd. be checked as it is a very short light. He asked if someone could look at the timing of this light.**

## **10. Comments from the Floor**

**None**

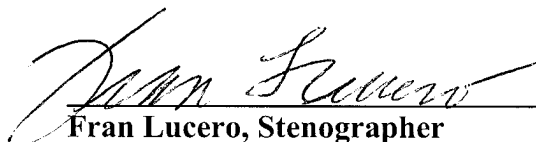
## **11. Adjournment**

**Dr. Mier moved to adjourn at 5:30 pm, second by Mr. Harris, motion carried by unanimous voice vote.**

**Signature:**

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**Councilor Ronald Trujillo**



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**Fran Lucero, Stenographer**