

# TUCSON POLICE DEPARTMENT OPERATIONS DIVISION SOUTH

MARCH 2018



## Captain's Corner

Captain John G. Strader

### HELPFUL RESOURCES:

Permits	791-5550
Code Enforcement	792-CITY
Trash Pick Up	791-3171
Street Maintenance	791-3154
Pima Animal Care	243-5900

We joined you as your neighbors and your public servants in the Pueblo Gardens Park after meeting with many of you in the wake of the tragic school shooting last month in Parkland, Florida and agreed with those of you that expressed that enough was enough. Pueblo Garden's Cindy Ayala put in a lot of work to getting this event set up and wanted it be locally driven and locally focused. It was important for us to be there not only to ensure that your First Amendment Rights were protected but also to show our commitment that the safety of our children and our communities is paramount. We are here to support you as our community and to assure you that we will not rest until you and your children are safe from this type of violence; whether it be at school, at the park, or out and about in town. We will remain vigilant and prepared to risk our own safety in order to realize that vision.

In fact, our officers just demonstrated their commitment to keeping you all safe this week when they were investigating a report of an armed robbery near Irvington & Campbell. The responding officers continued to search for the suspect and eventually found him hiding on a balcony of second story apartment. When the officers approached the suspect, he brandished a firearm (later discovered to be a replica handgun) and the officers discharged their firearms at the suspect, striking him multiple times. The suspect then forced his way inside the apartment where a female and her 3-year old daughter were inside. The mom and daughter hid in a bedroom until our officers and the responding SWAT officers were able to safely rescue them from their bedroom window. Once mother and child were safely outside, negotiators continued to talk with the suspect and were ultimately able to convince him to surrender to officers without any further violence. The suspect was arrested for the crimes that night and was also connected to several other recent robberies in the area. I share this to show to you that our commitment to you is not just in our words but also demonstrated by our actions. You have the finest officers there are serving your community and they are constantly placing themselves in harm's way to keep you safe.

### Traffic Safety

We have been making a dent in our traffic collisions that result in injury but we must keep our eye on achieving further reductions. The good news is that these types of traumatic events are completely preventable. Please challenge each of your neighbors and loved ones to put their phones down and to not text while driving (and take the challenge yourselves as well). According to [www.donttextdrive.com](http://www.donttextdrive.com), if you text and drive you are 23 times more likely to be involved in a traffic collision! We are nearing the end of our educational campaign for the recent hands-free ordinance and will begin issuing citations for these violations soon in order to do what we can to change this behavior from our end but need your help to have a greater impact.

### Crime Prevention Tip of the Month

I've had discussions with many of you about what you can do to make your homes, businesses, or neighborhoods safer and to help deter the criminal element but does not hurt to reiterate here and to encourage each of you to share the message within your circles of influence. You can have a major impact if you follow these simple prevention strategies:

- 1) Lock your vehicle doors when you go inside a store (may seem unbelievable but you would be surprised how many thefts involve unsecured vehicles.
- 2) Don't leave valuables inside your vehicles
- 3) If you have to leave valuables inside your cars— be sure they are not visible from outside
- 4) Use anti-theft license plate screws, prices range from \$3 to \$9 dollars (approximately 40% of the larcenies from vehicles were of license plates)
- 5) Use a steering wheel anti-lock device, prices range from \$18 to \$26 dollars (you've often heard me say that in my 18 years in law enforcement I have not taken one stolen vehicle report where the car was secured with a Club or similar device).

### Divisional Employee of the Quarter— Officer Jon Jones

Lead Police Officer Jones is exactly the type of officer described above and one who clearly has a knack for locating and apprehending those that prey on the community. In the words of his Sergeant, Jon performs his role well as one of the division's senior officers. Officer Jones steps up and manages supervisory responsibilities when needed and actively mentors younger officers. Jon is also someone that is consistently searching for ways to improve the operations around him. Officer Jones' dependability, leadership, work ethic and attitude make him one of the best officers in the Division and worthy of this recognition as the Divisional Employee of the Quarter.

### Officer Jon Jones

