

On Call Inside the Blue



A community news publication of the Arlington Police Department

Arlington Detective Recovers from Injury



Detective Lodatto

The Arlington Police Department sends a special thanks to the community and all who sent prayers and words of encouragement to Detective Charles Lodatto who was injured on July 23 in Saginaw.

Lodatto was serving on a specialized task force when he was shot while assisting with the execution of a search warrant in the Saginaw homicide investigation of a 6-year-old girl. An officer who applied a tourniquet at the scene of the shooting is credited with saving Lodatto's life. On July 29, Lodatto was released from a Fort Worth hospital.

"We are especially thankful to the Arlington Police Department family, the Arlington community, the medical staff at the hospital and everyone who responded with care and sent prayers and words of encouragement," said Police Chief Will Johnson said.

Lodatto, a 21-year veteran of APD, is a husband, father of two children and 2012 APD Detective of the Year.

Start Planning Your Neighborhood Block Party!

On Tuesday, Oct. 1, your neighborhood is invited to participate in the 30th Annual National Night Out.

Now is a good time to start talking with your neighbors about a block party or fun outdoor activity to promote safety and show community unity against criminal activity.

Register your event and public safety officials from Police and Fire could visit your event. [Click here to get started.](#)



Convention Was a Big Success for Citizen Police Partners

The 2013 State Convention of the Texas Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association opened July 24 in Arlington with record-breaking attendance. More than 300 CPAAA members from Texas cities large and small gathered at the Sheraton Hotel for a three-day conference with law enforcement.

Participants spent time in safety workshops while also enjoying Arlington attractions. Police Chief Will Johnson joined Mayor Robert Cluck and City Manager Trey Yelverton in welcoming the citizen volunteers to Arlington and thanking them for their continued impact on public safety in the their communities.

Arlington CPAAA President Pat Struble said teamwork and networking were common themes shared by participants.



"The region came together to hear what others are doing and to talk about what more can be done in our communities to support the work of police officers," said Pat Struble.

Join the Arlington CPAAA. [Click here to get involved.](#)



Pat Struble with Deputy City Manager Theron Bowman

Arlington Police Explorers Excel in Team Competitions

These Explorer Post members envision their futures in law enforcement as police officers, protecting and serving their communities.

At the 24th Annual Texas Law Enforcement Explorer Advisors State Competition on July 18-21, these Arlington youth showcased the law enforcement skills they are learning as members of Explorer Post #602. They competed with Explorer Posts from across the state in real-life police scenarios and garnered a **Fifth Place Overall Team Award!**



Congratulations Explorer Post #602! Membership is open to anyone age 14 to 20 who is interested in a career in law enforcement. Learn more at www.Arlingtonpd.org Click on Police Explorers



Good Food Choices Help Keep Kids Safe and Healthy During The Summer



Chef Brenda Johnson

It is estimated that one in every three American children is overweight or obese. Obesity can lead to heart disease and serious health problems.

At Roquemore Elementary School this summer, a program is demonstrating the importance of healthy eating, nutrition and exercise. This is another great example of the good things that are occurring in the North Police District with your youth.

This program involves the Boys and Girls Club and staff from Roquemore Elementary School.

I had the pleasure of attending a session and interacting with kids about safety. Not only was everyone having fun and enjoying healthy snacks, but they were learning about nutrition and the importance of exercise. Guest speaker Chef Brenda Johnson with LaBuona Cucina Catering led a very informative session as she shared delicious

recipes with everyone. She provided nutritional facts and allowed all the kids to taste and enjoy! Everyone enjoyed running and games in the gym.

It is so important to keep our kids active and off the streets during the summer months. The Boys and Girls Club and Roquemore Elementary are doing an outstanding job of helping to keep our kids safe and healthy. Thank you!

Get more nutritional facts: www.ChooseMyPlate.com



Each month in On Call, watch for more public safety highlights from the North District Crime Prevention Officer Kimberly Fretwell. Contact her at 817-459-5589 or Kim.Fretwell@Arlingtontx.gov.

Take Time to Talk "Safety" With the Seniors in your Circle of Influence

Many of us have been influenced in a positive way by a senior citizen at some point in our lives. Whether it has been a relative, a church member or educator, each one of us has had our lives impacted by words of wisdom from those who are now enjoying their Golden Years.



If you take an introspective look at your life, you can probably recall a specific time when an elderly individual took the time to teach you the simple things in life such as being courteous and respectful. Well, it's time to help those who helped us by raising awareness about safety. The Arlington Police Department offers these basic reminders.

1. **When at home, lock doors and use deadbolts.** If you're not expecting company and you hear a knock at your door, be sure to look through the peep hole. Burglars sometimes knock on the door and wait to determine if anyone is home before kicking in the door.

2. **If solicitors or workers come to your door, verify their employment by contacting the business and looking closely at their identification.** While talking to a visitor, act as if there are other people inside of the home, even if you're alone. Never leave a spare key under a mat or post messages on a door advising others you are home or away.

3. **If you receive a random phone call from a solicitor, NEVER give out information such as bank account numbers, social security numbers and other personal information.**

4. **When driving, always be aware of your surroundings so that you're able to tell first responders where to find you if you need help.** Remember street signs and building information. If you leave your car, remove the key from the ignition. It takes only seconds for a thief to steal your vehicle. Before you park, make sure you are in a well lit area. When exiting your vehicle, always take, lock and hide all valuables.

This month, take time to talk about safety to those in your circle of influence. For more crime prevention tips, contact me. I am available to assist you.



Watch for new crime prevention highlight every month from the South District Crime Prevention Officer Ray Polk. Contact him at 817-459-5732 or Ray.Polk@Arlingtontx.gov.

On Call

East District

Block Party Brings Neighbors Out for Food, Fun and Safety

Arlington officers from the East Police District joined residents from police reporting area 265 for a neighborhood block party on July 9.

This outdoor event included members of the Fire Department along with City of Arlington staff from Code Enforcement and Animal Services. Mission Arlington and volunteers from our Hispanic Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association also participated.

Officers enjoyed their visits with residents about safety and crime prevention. During the event, several residents expressed interest in forming a Community Watch Group and making the block party an annual tradition in their neighborhood.

Thanks to donations from Mission Arlington and the HCPAAA, there were plenty of cool refreshments, popcorn, snow cones and hot dogs. The kids enjoyed the bounce house and climbing aboard the fire engine.

Neighborhood events like this build civic pride and strengthen community partnerships.

Save the date: National Night Out is Tuesday, Oct. 1, another great reason to come out and celebrate! Visit www.Arlingtonpd.org for everything you need to get started.



Every month, watch for a new Crime Prevention highlight from your East District Crime Prevention Officer. For more information, call the APD Crime Prevention Unit at 817-459-5725.

On Call

West District

Welcome! Newest Member of Crime Prevention Unit is Here to Assist



Meet Elisa Cruz

This month, I would like to introduce Elisa Cruz as the newest member of the Crime Prevention Unit.

Elisa is the Office Assistant and a first point of contact when you call or visit the Crime Prevention Unit located at the Ott Cribbs Public Safety Center.

Elisa is here to provide vital support to Crime Prevention Officers. She assists with the various community programs this unit is responsible for managing such as National Night Out and Communities Against Crime 5K Run and Walk which is coming up on Sept. 7.

Our new Office Assistant comes to the Crime Prevention Unit from the Arlington City Attorney's Office where she has been employed since 2010. Prior to coming to the City of Arlington, she worked as a legal assistant in a private practice law firm.

This devoted wife and mother of three children said she was drawn to the Crime Prevention Unit because of the large amount of

interaction this unit has with the public.

Elisa describes herself as a people person who enjoys helping others. One of Elisa's main goals in her new role is to help APD reach out to more of its Hispanic families to engage them in crime prevention initiatives.

Please join me in welcoming Elisa to the Crime Prevention Unit and making her feel welcome as part of the APD family.

If you have a question or need assistance from the Arlington Police Department Crime Prevention Unit, call 817-459-5725 or [click here](#) to send Elisa an e-mail.



New crime prevention highlights each month from the West District Crime Prevention Officer Doug Glotfelty. Contact him at 817-459-6072 or Doug.Glotfelty@Arlingtontx.gov.

Great Police Work! Burglary Suspects Captured

During the early morning hours of July 20, a watchful eye spotted some suspicious activity occurring outside of a commercial business. This individual didn't hesitate to pick up the phone and call 9-1-1.

The caller gave dispatchers a good description of the vehicle and its location of travel. Later in the morning, North District patrol officers armed with these details observed the vehicle and initiated a traffic stop.

According to reports, Officers determined they had the vehicle from the early morning commercial robbery on Randol Mill Road. Stolen merchandise was located in the vehicle and returned to the store. Two robbery suspects were arrested without incident and booked into the Arlington City Jail.

"Well done, witness and Arlington PD." - APD Facebook Fan

One week earlier in an unrelated case, West District patrol officers on their evening shift were dispatched to a burglary in progress call. Robbers used force to gain entry into a vacant home. As officers arrived on scene, they observed a vehicle speeding from the home. They



conducted a traffic stop, capturing two of the occupants. According to reports, one of the occupants escaped from the vehicle, but didn't escape police. Engaged in a foot pursuit, officers apprehended the third suspect, removing these criminals from Arlington neighborhood streets. APD posted these examples of good police work on its Facebook pages in July, and hundreds of fans "Liked" the posts. Comments were shared. "Bad guys in jail and APD finished their shifts safely. That's what we like!" a fan wrote. When you see something, say something! Call 9-1-1 to report suspicious activity.

Arlington Officer Brings Home More Gold



Congratulations Officer Barry Samples

In July, at the 2013 Texas Police Games in Austin, Officer Barry Samples won two gold medals in Track and Field competitions.

Winning is nothing new to this 20-year veteran of the Arlington Police Department. He's won numerous gold, silver and bronze medals since he began participating in this Olympic-style competition for law enforcement in 1996. Officer Samples says he trains and participates for "overall good health" and police comradeship.

Since 1978, Texas Police Games has been sponsored by the Texas Police Athletic Federation to promote physical fitness and wellness for members of law enforcement communities.

In the Community

**Together, We Can Stop Impaired Driving!
Designate a sober driver. Call a cab. Save a Life.**



APD Reminds Drivers to Make Smart Decisions

As the summer months draw to an end, APD reminds you to make smart decisions when you have been drinking. Across the state, one person dies in an alcohol related crash every five hours, according to the Texas Department of Transportation. These types of crashes are completely preventable.

Do your part. Have a plan. **Pass the keys to a sober driver. Call a cab.** Your life or someone else's may depend on it.

Save the date. The Communities Against Crime 5K Run and 1 Mile Fun Walk is **Saturday, Sept. 7**, benefitting abused and neglected children. APD is proud to be a community partner. [Register here.](#)

Lots of crafts this Saturday, Aug. 10! The Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association Artisan Faire is 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Arlington Courts Volleyball & Sports Facility, 3210 Pioneer Parkway.

Ride the Max. This new bus service starts **Monday, Aug. 19.** [Details here.](#)

The All City Community Watch Coordinators meeting is **Aug. 20.**

Back to School News!

Students are back in class on **Monday, Aug. 26.** The Arlington Police Department reminds motorists to slow down in school zones and watch for pedestrians. Always stop when school buses are loading and unloading. Before passing a school bus, watch for flashing lights and stop signs. Be safe!



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Send story ideas and comments to:

817-459-5384 or Cheryl.Carpenter@Arlingtontx.gov

www.ArlingtonPD.org

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