



THE DETAIL

ARAPAHOE COUNTY SHERIFF

A publication of the Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office

January 2016

New Year, New Look!

OUR COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER GETS A MAKEOVER!

Welcome to The Detail, the new monthly version of the Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office community newsletter. This newsletter will include all of the important information you have been receiving in the quarterly newsletter, with added information about the Sheriff's Office; relevant crime prevention tips; safety information; upcoming events; wanted persons; and ways to be involved at the Sheriff's Office.

The Detail is a reference to both the various assignments we have and the information, or particulars, we provide to the community. The two definitions are tied together in all of the work that we do, no matter where we work within the agency.

We are proud of our quarterly communication efforts over the last 10 years, but recognize that quarterly distribution doesn't meet the needs of our active communities. The new format is in line with our goal to be more connected with the community and provide information in a timely manner.

We rely on the community to be our partners in crime prevention. Your observations and actions are often the key to solving and preventing crime in our county.

See News, [page 4](#)

Important Phone Numbers

Emergency	911
Non-Emergency Dispatch	303-795-4711
TTY	303-795-4711
General Information	720-874-3600
Traffic Complaints (cold)	720-874-3825
In-progress traffic complaints	303-795-4711
Detentions Information	720-874-3500
Records Unit	720-874-3875
TTY	720-874-3877
Internal Affairs Unit	720-874-4014
Crime Tip Line	720-874-8477
TTY	720-874-6994
Email	acsotips@arapahoegov.com
Concealed Handgun Permits	720-874-3895
Civil Unit	720-874-3845
TTY	720-874-3996

Get Info in More Ways!

We are expanding our on-line presence so we can provide information to the community through a variety of channels. Currently, citizens can obtain information through our website and on Twitter. In early spring, we will launch our Facebook page, as well.

We also have a YouTube channel that we will be expanding by mid-spring to include educational videos containing safety tips and crime prevention information.

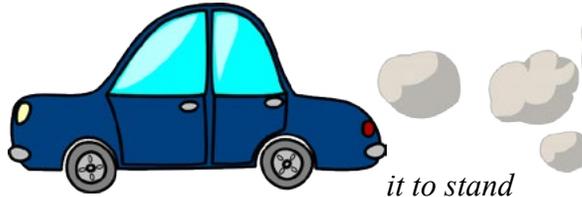
We will also have a presence on Next Door so that we can engage specific neighborhoods within our precincts. The Next Door platform allows us to communicate relevant crime information at the neighborhood level.

See [page 4](#) for how to connect with us!

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Puffers



Understanding the Law and Preventing Auto Theft

Every winter, you hear a lot about Puffers, those vehicles left warming up unattended. They get their name from the tell-tale puff of exhaust coming from a cold car on a cold day.

The warnings are certainly valid. That puff of exhaust alerts thieves to the running vehicles. Every year, more than 11,000 vehicles are stolen in Colorado. Of those, about 48 percent had the keys left in them, and 15 percent of those were left running for the thief.

The Law

The Puffer Law is found in Colorado Revised Statutes: 42-4-1206. *Unattended motor vehicle*
No person driving or in charge of a motor vehicle shall permit

it to stand unattended without first stopping the engine, locking the ignition, removing the key from the ignition, and effectively setting the brake thereon, and, when standing upon any grade, said person shall turn the front wheels to the curb or side of the highway in such a manner as to prevent the vehicle from rolling onto the traveled way. Any person who violates any provision of this section, commits a Class B traffic infraction.

Some municipalities also enforce this under their model traffic code. We often get the question about remote starters and whether or not it is legal to leave your car warming if you have a remote starter. The answer to that is no. Remote starters are not allowed for under the law.

What About Private Property?

The law as it is written applies to Colorado roadways and not private property. Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office does not enforce puffer laws on private property. However, some municipalities have ordinances that prohibit or limit vehicle idling. It is important to know the law in the jurisdiction where you live.

Just because we don't enforce the law on private property doesn't mean you should take the chance with leaving your car running unattended. Thieves don't care if you are parked on the street or in the driveway.

If you are parked on private property, we encourage you to use a remote starter or stay with your car. You have the power to prevent auto theft! If you start it, stay with it; if you leave it, take the key.

Another Kind of Auto Theft

Recently, there were several reports of carjackings in neighboring jurisdictions, some are believed to be part of group of criminals. Unfortunately, this is not just a big-city problem. This crime has spread to suburban malls and neighborhoods across the country.

While carjackings are rare compared to other forms of auto theft, they can be much more dangerous, or even deadly. Suspects are often armed and openly display their weapons to victims.

Who Is At Risk?

Carjackings can happen anywhere; on a street; in a parking

lot; or even in your driveway. Suspects often look for people who appear unaware. Texting, talking on your phone or fumbling with packages all divert your attention away from your surroundings and your personal safety.

You can reduce the likelihood of being victimized by being aware of your surroundings. When you return to your parked vehicle, look around you, enter quickly, lock the doors and leave. Keep your doors locked while driving.

When arriving home, be aware of unusual people or vehicles in the area. If you are even slightly suspicious, or you are concerned

that you have been followed, do not stop. Continue past your home and notify law enforcement.

When driving, leave adequate space between you and the vehicle in front of you when you stop. This gives you space to maneuver if a suspect approaches your vehicle.

If you are faced with a carjacker, your personal safety is your first priority. Give up your vehicle and do everything you can to avoid getting in the vehicle with a carjacker. If you are a victim, notify law enforcement as soon as possible.

Precinct-based Policing

Did you know that the Sheriff's Office has eight different precincts? Geographic deployment by precinct helps us keep call response times down. Deputies also become more familiar with the area they police and are better able to recognize problems that may be specific to the area.

The precincts are numbered one through eight, from west to east. In addition to our headquarters on Broncos Parkway, we also have substations in precincts one, five and eight.

Crime Analysis

Precinct-based policing also aids in crime analysis and crime prevention. The Sheriff's Office uses a modified COMPSTAT process, a successful crime analysis and law enforcement management process developed by the New York City Police Department.

Lieutenants assigned to our precincts are responsible for providing effective crime control strategies for their respective precincts. One size does not fit all when it comes to our communities and precinct-based policing allows us to use crime prevention tactics that work for each specific area.

Precinct Boundaries

In each precinct, we cover unincorporated areas and the City of Centennial. View the maps on our [website](#) to see our precinct boundaries. Here are some approximate boundaries:

- Precinct 1 - Sheridan to University; Floyd to County Line Road; and a small area on the northwest corner of Hampden and Federal.
- Precinct 2 - University to Holly; Orchard to County Line Road; and a small area on the northeast corner of Hampden and University.
- Precinct 3 - Holly to I-25; Orchard to County Line Road; and a small area on the northwest corner of Belleview and I-25.
- Precinct 4 - I-25 to Parker Road; I-225 to County Line Road; including Cherry Creek State Park.
- Precinct 5 - The areas of Holly Hills and Four Square Mile.
- Precinct 6 - Parker Road to Tower Road; Belleview to County Line Road.
- Precinct 7 - Tower Road to Gun Club Road; Hampden to County Line Road.
- Precinct 8 - Gun Club to the east county line; Colfax to County Line Road.



Phone Scams

Phone scams continue to be a problem nationwide.

Even we are amazed at the variety of tactics criminals will use to get victims to part with their hard-earned money. Many criminals have learned to use technology to provide apparent legitimacy to their scam by cloning phone numbers of law enforcement agencies.

Unfortunately, many of these scams are directed at the elderly. Please take steps to educate everyone in your family about these scams and how to prevent them.

Types of scams

- *You missed jury duty and you have a warrant* - The criminals ask for prepaid credit cards or phone cards and threaten arrest.
- *You didn't pay a ticket and you have a warrant* - Very similar to the jury duty scam above.
- *A relative is in jail and needs bail money* - These are particularly disturbing because the suspect often poses as the relative. They do their research and they target grandparents who would have difficulty recognizing their grandchild's voice.

- *A relative is stranded somewhere and needs money* - This scam is very similar to the relative being arrested scam.

How to avoid being scammed

Always remember that law enforcement agencies will not call you to tell you that you have a warrant. If there is an agency that does for minor warrants, you will be instructed to make payment at the appropriate law enforcement agency. Deputies will not ask you for credit card information over the phone or ask you to get pre-paid cards.

Get a phone number and tell them you need to call them back. These types of scams rely on emotional responses of victims who fear that they will be arrested or that a loved one may be in in trouble or otherwise in harm's way. Take some time to verify the story with other family members and notify local law enforcement.

If you have been a victim or have received a call and did not follow the scam, please report the crime by calling 303-795-4711. Investigators can use all information to track these criminals and it does help us make arrests.

Openings Available for Spring Citizens' Academy!

There is still space available in our Spring Citizens' Academy, but spots will go fast! Twice a year, the Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office hosts these popular Citizens' Academies for adults. The Citizens' Academy is an exciting opportunity to get a "behind the scenes" look at the Sheriff's Office.



and Thursday from 6 to 9 p.m. The academy also includes two Saturday sessions, April 16 and April 30, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Some sessions are held at off-site facilities. Food is provided during each class.

If you are interested in attending the Academy, complete the [application](#). Return your application, along

The Sheriff's Office began hosting these academies in 1995. Building upon the principles of Community Oriented Policing, Partnerships and Problem Solving, the academies create a connection between our citizens and law enforcement.

Attendees get to see and experience the various areas of the Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office. Most sessions include hands-on, interactive experiences.

Our Spring 2016 academy is free and will take place at the Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office from April 5 to May 5, 2016. Class is held every Tuesday

with a copy of your photo identification or driver's license to Deputy Brian McKnight at bmcknight@arapahoe.gov. It can be mailed to his attention at 13101 East Broncos Parkway, Centennial, CO 80112.

Questions should also be directed to Deputy McKnight at 720-874-3750. All applicants are subject to a criminal background check and the release of liability must be signed and turned in prior the start of the academy.

Volunteer Opportunity!

Volunteers are needed to assist with the GED program at the Arapahoe County Detention Facility. Volunteers provide tutoring during GED class times. All potential volunteers must complete a mandatory 6-hour orientation program.

Our GED program has been a certified Pearson Vue Testing Center since April 2015. Inmates participated in more than 1,900 GED classes in 2015, with 59 inmates completing at least one of the four tests required to obtain a GED. Since April, five inmates have completed all of the tests and earned their GED.

The GED computer lab, all GED materials and the Pearson Vue testing costs are paid for through the inmate commissary fund and not with tax dollars.

If you would like more information on how to volunteer for this valuable program, contact Sherri Hanak, Detention Services Coordinator, at 720-874-3527, or at shanak@arapahoe.gov.

News, from page 1

As we launch this new version of our newsletter, we are interested in community feedback for how we can continue to improve it. Suggestions are always welcome! If you have ideas about what you would like to see included, please email Julie Brooks at jbrooks@arapahoe.gov or call 720-874-4151.

Connect with Us!

 [@ArapahoeSO](https://twitter.com/ArapahoeSO)

 [/ArapahoeSO](https://www.facebook.com/ArapahoeSO) (Coming Soon!)

 <http://bit.ly/ArapahoeSO>

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