

MINUTES OF THE
SANTA FE COUNTY
DWI PLANNING COUNCIL

Study Session

June 12, 2014

Santa Fe, New Mexico

This meeting of the Santa Fe County DWI Planning Council study session was called to order by Tom Starke at approximately 9:00 a.m. on the above-cited date at 2052 S. Galisteo, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Lacking a quorum, the Council met as study session and the following individuals were present:

Members Present:

Tom Starke
Richard De Mella
Leah Tafoya
John Mowen

Member(s) Excused:

Donna Bevacqua-Young, Chair
Loralee Freilich
Erica Abeyta
David Saldivar

Staff Present:

Lupe Sanchez, DWI Program Coordinator
Peter Olson, DWI Program
Diolinda Roybal, DWI Prevention Specialist
Jennifer Romero, Teen Court

Others Present:

Mark Lewandowski, SFPD
Angel Torres, Sergeant, NM Department of Public Safety, Special Investigation Division
Nathan Segura, Corporal, Santa Fe County Sheriff – DWI Coordinator
Tomas Glober, NM DMV Unit Supervisor
Juan Valdez, PMS

The agenda was accepted by consensus and action on the minutes was postponed.

V. Matters from the Council

A. Follow-up from Previous Meetings

None were presented.

VI. Information Items

A. Special Investigation Division

Sergeant Angel Torres, NM Department of Public Safety said Special Investigations Division, which is under the NM State Police has the mission is to enforce the NM Liquor Control Act through Alcohol and Gaming. SID is in the field visiting alcohol establishments checking compliance with the regulations in sale and service to the general public. The division issues administrative citations to packaged liquors stores, bars and restaurants as well as to the public. SID is made up of commissioned police officers and can make arrests. They run compliance checks regarding service/sales to minors to insure IDs are checked and there is no over-serving. They also conduct "shoulder tap" operations to insure citizens are not providing alcohol to minors.

Sgt. Torres said SID is conducting a joint operation, "Descansos," with Santa Fe County Sheriff Office and Santa Fe Police. These are DWI warrant roundups. In addition SID runs substance and intoxication operations.

He identified his district as Santa Fe north to the Colorado border and east to the Texas and Oklahoma borders. He joined SID in March 2014 and estimated issuing 50 to 60 administrative citations to bars and package liquors since that time.

There are two prongs of enforcement: Administrative through Alcohol & Gaming where the offending establishment is fined, and/or temporary closures. SID can issue citations for a criminal punishment through the courts. At this time there are five SID agents in the northern part of the state.

Sgt. Torres said SID needs seasoned officers and identified himself as retired from the Albuquerque Police force.

Chair Starke said he understood there were 364 individuals with DWI related bench warrants. He offered the Council's assistance. Sgt. Torres said he was not the grant coordinator on this program but is working with the County and City who prepare the warrants; it is an effective operation. Many times the individual has left the country or the state.

Mr. Sanchez said the data reveals that 42 percent of the 364 are Spanish-speaking only. Sgt. Torres said he along with others on his team are Spanish-speakers and that hasn't been an obstacle.

Chair Starke said the Council's goal is to have zero outstanding warrants and he offered the Council assistance if desired. "Rather than chasing the problem, let's get ahead of it." Sgt. Torres said Albuquerque was running photos of those with outstanding warrants and offering a small cash reward for information about the individual which has been effective. Mr. Olson said the County publishes 10 to 15 photos a month. Ms. Tafoya mentioned the *Jail Bird* as an valuable public shaming tool.

Acknowledging that many people use different names and have multiple IDs, Sgt. Torres said it would be helpful if that information were combined. Mr. Olson mentioned a database for non-driver records that could be accessed by dispatch that was being developed. Mr. Glober asked that discovery of multiple IDs be forwarded to his department.

Sgt. Torres pointed out that if someone on the street buys a minor alcohol it's a felony. However, if a server, who has been trained, serves a minor it's a misdemeanor on the first offense and felony on second offense. In the recent past it was changed from a felony for the server on the first offense. He opined that was a mistake.

Chair Starke said informing local law enforcement of SID activities is an effective tool. Sgt. Torres was invited to attend the monthly law enforcement meeting.

A SID list dated 3/2014 to date citing alcohol establishments including the offense was distributed.

B. Recidivism Survey

Mr. Mowen said he is working with the Behavior Health Alliance to develop a survey for individuals on probation or parole to obtain their perceptions of the problems in criminal justice thus providing offenders a voice within the Alliance. Two groups will be surveyed; ten high recidivists and ten low recidivists. The goal is to lower recidivism. Joni Morales, a clinical social worker, serves on the committee and will conduct the survey which includes questions regarding their perceptions of the police, jail/prison, public defender's office/counsel, hospital, courts/judge, probation/parole and treatment in both Spanish and English.

Consent is required from the individuals and Highlands will provide the IRB (institutional review board).

Chair Starke requested that staff compare the survey developed for DWI high offenders. Mr. Mowen agreed that would be a worthwhile comparison.

C. Guidance for Public When Pulled Over by Law Enforcement *[Exhibit 1: The Guide]*

Chair Starke said this draft guide was developed by the Crisis Team which is part of the Santa Fe Behavioral Health Alliance. The idea is to provide the guide as an insert in the newspaper to educate citizens on what to expect when pulled over. The guide is in draft form and he asked for comment. He anticipated publishing it within a DWI insert in the next few months.

The following additions were made:

- Always have your driver's license
- Refusal to sign a citation may result in immediate jail
- Correct the numbering on the guide
- How to pass or pull over for an emergency vehicle

Mr. Glober said he would review NM DMV's online data to see if there is a similar document and determine whether it can be added to the DWI school which is established via DOT information. Chair Starke asked that DMV determine whether this could be included in their driver's safety programs and on the webpage.

Ms. Tafoya said the guide would be beneficial in her department's defensive driving courses.

Sgt. Lewandowski said the biggest problem he encounters is drivers not knowing how to pull over to the right.

Mr. Tafoya said the Fire Department has been working on what to do around emergency vehicles. Mr. Sanchez said the Fire Department has a video on YouTube about pulling to the right and they share the same concerns law enforcement has on this issue.

Chair Starke recommended once the guide is edited that it can be included as an insert in both English and Spanish.

D. Coordinator's Report

Juan Valdez, PMS, introduced himself and said he works with people in recovery, addicts and alcoholics. As a recovering alcoholic, he said he can provide the consumer's perspective in terms of the DWI experience.

Mr. Valdez said he was pleased the local police were working with the mental health alliance to better serve people.

Mr. Sanchez and Mr. Olson reported on the following:

- The DWI program has focused on public awareness regarding DWI and other issues. A press release highlighting local law enforcement efforts was provided
- A new ad agency was hired (FireStik Studio) and they have produced a new public awareness campaign: "Think SaFe" Be smart. The campaign focuses on changing attitudes and ideas. Bartenders at participating bars will be wearing Think SaFe t-shirts
- Santa Fe County Legal Department is reviewing the use of "Think SaFe" or the DWI emblem at points of alcohol consumption
- Computers, speakers and projectors were ordered for Magistrate Court

Mr. Sanchez provided an update on the Cab Ride Home program with comparison data for the past three years. The projected cost for FY 14 is \$107,444.71. FY15 is budgeted at \$100,000. Increasing the price for the rider has reduced the County's cost and for a time effected a reduction in ridership. The ridership has increased since May.

Regarding the cab rides, mention was made that the cab company receives a great deal of free publicity from the program as well as revenue. The cab numbers were seriously questioned by some of the Council members. Staff explained how the numbers are verified. Mr. Olson said the program was evaluated for accuracy with a cross check of phone and dispatch logs.

Sgt. Lewandowski said the majority of major crashes occur between 2:30 a.m. and 3:30 a.m. and he recommended extending or modifying the cab ride hours of operation. Staff offered to review that.

VII. Miscellaneous

Chair Starke said there is an interest in expanding the advertising of checkpoints and saturation controls through the local institutions of higher education. The idea is to promote greater awareness and leverage of DWI programs. He suggested this could be integrated it into the Think SaFe campaign. Use of electronic billboards are being investigated.

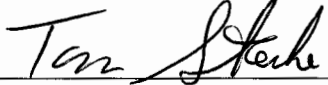
The DWI program will sponsor the July 17th Santa Fe Plaza Bandstand as well as have a presence through the bandstand season.

The next meeting was scheduled for July 10th.

VIII. Adjournment

This meeting was declared adjourned at approximately 10:30 a.m.

Approved by:

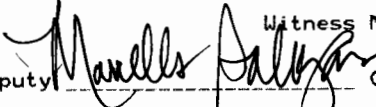


Tom Starke, Chair
DWI Planning Council

Respectfully submitted by:

Karen Farrell, Wordswork



COUNTY OF SANTA FE)
STATE OF NEW MEXICO) ss
DWI MINUTES
PAGES: 5
I Hereby Certify That This Instrument Was Filed for
Record On The 19TH Day Of August, 2014 at 09:29:57 AM
And Was Duly Recorded as Instrument # 1743850
Of The Records Of Santa Fe County
Witness My Hand And Seal Of Office
Geraldine Salazar
Deputy  County Clerk, Santa Fe, NM