



MNPD NEWSLINE

THE OFFICIAL EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER OF THE MNPD

May 17, 2013

News from the Chief



On Thursday, our police department and this city had the privilege of honoring a truly dedicated public servant who, through his 38-year law enforcement career, had a remarkably strong impact on Nashville's safety and vibrancy. At age 86, Chief Joe Casey, along with his family and a crowd of friends and well-wishers, gathered as we formally dedicated the West Precinct headquarters on Charlotte Pike the Chief Joe D. Casey Building. As Mayor Dean put it, this is a big deal. Our city does not name buildings after people very often.

Chief Casey began his Nashville police career in 1951. Well-respected and well-liked in the police department and the community, he steadily rose through the ranks. Mayor Beverly Briley named Joe Casey acting Chief of Police in 1973. Mayor Richard Fulton made the appointment permanent in 1974. Chief Casey's 16-year tenure as chief (1973 to 1989) is virtually unheard of in the modern era of major city policing. During his time as chief, there were even bumper stickers printed with the slogan of public support, "Hang 'em High Joe," which reflected Chief Casey's tough stance on criminals.

I am personally thankful to have been hired by Joe Casey in 1975, during a time when he took part in interviewing each police officer applicant. During my assignment in the Planning Division, I had the opportunity to observe Chief Casey's leadership and decision-making skills first hand. I am a better person today because of Chief Casey. Even today, when faced with a difficult decision, I sometimes ask myself, "What would Chief Casey do?"

Not only was Chief Casey well thought of here in Nashville, his peers around the world also held him in the highest esteem. He was elected 6th Vice President of the International Association of Chiefs of Police in 1981 and served as IACP President in 1987. He also was a founder of the Tennessee Association of Chiefs of Police and served as its president seven times.

In typical Joe Casey fashion, he carefully hand-wrote the remarks that he delivered at Thursday's dedication ceremony. I want to share a few excerpts with you to illustrate the person who meant so much to this police department:

"I believe honorees only represent the people who helped them earn the honor. God knows I had to have a lot of help. So I thank Him for my wonderful parents who taught me to work hard, respect others, be fair, honest and love your neighbors. They gave me two wonderful sisters and two wonderful brothers. They all sacrificed a lot so I could graduate from high school... I thank God for my teachers, coaches and principals who taught me how to read and write, to play by the rules, team work, how to win and lose, that nothing comes free...and for the people of Davidson County, the greatest people in the world to work for... I will cherish this honor for the rest of my life. I would be remiss if I did not thank you, our police department, for what you do daily to make our great city safer and better. Thanks again for honoring me, and doing it while I am still alive."

We can all be proud that the legacy of Chief Joe Casey will live on for decades on the front of our building at 5500 Charlotte Pike.



Chief Steve Anderson congratulates Chief Casey moments after the new signage was unveiled. Looking on (l-r) are former Mayor Richard Fulton, Mayor Karl Dean and Metro Councilman Buddy Baker, who sponsored the ordinance naming the West Precinct headquarters in honor of Casey.



“Joe Casey was a no-nonsense, dedicated law enforcement leader who cared deeply for this city. He was as he is today, kind, respected, outgoing and firm.” --Mayor Karl Dean



Retired Chief Casey greets former Mayor Richard Fulton. Casey’s tenure as Chief included all 12 years of the Fulton administration.



“I believe honorees only represent the people who helped them earn the honor. God knows I had to have a lot of help. So I thank Him for my wonderful parents who taught me to work hard, respect others, be fair, honest and love your neighbors.” –Retired Chief Joe Casey

Happenings

Mayor Karl Dean and Chief Steve Anderson on May 6th welcomed the 40 members of Police Recruit Session 71, the 16th class of police officer trainees to begin during the Dean administration.

The 40 trainees, who began at the academy on May 1, will receive rigorous classroom and physical instruction over the next 22 weeks. The class will graduate in September.





Session 71

MNPD Drill & Ceremony Team

The Metropolitan Nashville Police Department's Drill & Ceremony Team has again been judged among the best in North America.

The MNPD team this afternoon placed second in competition during National Police Week in Washington, D.C. The U.S. Border Patrol placed first. Peel Regional Police (Canada) finished third. The judging is based on team inspection, color guard presentation and up to an eight minute skills exhibition. Eighteen teams took part in this year's competition.

The Nashville team finished first in 2007 and 2009 competition.



Members of the Metropolitan Police Department's Drill & Ceremony Team are photographed with the judges from this year's competition. Metro officers are (l-r) Detective Ryan Catron, Detective Cliff Knight, Sergeant Morgan Ford, Lieutenant Grant Carroll, Officer Joel Bontrager and Detective Donnell Barr. The event is judged by members of the Army's 3rd Infantry Division, "The Old Guard," whose primary duties are to serve as sentinels at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, and by members of the U.S. Marine Corps 8th & I Barracks, where the Marine Silent Drill Team is based.



Drill & Ceremony Team members honor officers killed in the line of duty during the May 8th Fraternal Order of Police Memorial Service at First Baptist Church in downtown Nashville.

Children's Alliance

Chief Anderson participates in a Mapco kick-off event benefitting the Nashville Children's Alliance.

The Children's Alliance provides important support to young victims and witnesses. Chief Anderson serves on the organization's board.



Pictured (l-r) are Chief Steve Anderson, Director of Marketing and CRM of MAPCO Express, Inc. Howard Curtis, Executive Director of Nashville Children's Alliance June Turner, President of MAPCO Express, Inc. Igal Zamir, Jaime Butera, whose daughter was a child victim, and Distict Attorney General Torry Johnson.

G.R.E.A.T Program

Members of the Volunteer Chaplain Program, Juvenile Court Probation Officers and Department of Children's Services juvenile case managers on May 6th completed Gang Resistance Education and Training (G.R.E.A.T.) for Families at the West Precinct.

Topics discussed included bullying, discipline, role modeling, family relationships, positive communication and setting goals.

All of the participants are now certified as G.R.E.A.T. co-facilitators and are assisting officers with G.R.E.A.T. programs throughout Nashville.



Criminal Justice Center Security Guards Recognized

Criminal Justice Center Security Guard Supervisor Kenneth Braden and Security Guard Mark Patterson received Chief's Coins for outstanding performance of duty.

Security Guard Patterson on March 16th heard a code 5000 go out regarding an officer struggling with a combative man at 400 Charlotte Avenue. He ran to the scene and assisted the officer.

Due to another employee's extended medical leave, Security Guard Braden has been assisting with C-shift supervision in addition to his B-shift detail. He also went out in the pouring rain and changed a flat tire for a Records Division employee.



Pictured (l-r) are Kenneth Braden and Mark Patterson.

Chaplain Officer James Duke on May 2nd traveled to Jackson, Tennessee where he trained seven Jackson Police Department chaplains.



Chaplain James Duke

The Precinct News

Hermitage

Officers assigned to the Special Response Team arrested 19-year-old Terrell Lamont Booker, who is alleged to have taken part in the critical wounding of a man on Village Green Drive in the Nashboro Village area on the afternoon of March 1st.

Arrest warrants charging Booker with attempted murder and attempted especially aggravated robbery were issued on March 2nd.

The investigation by Detective Andrew Injaychock shows that Booker and another man came to the apartment of 20-year-old Jerome Perkins to sell marijuana. Perkins opened his door and was reaching for money when Booker and his accomplice tried at gunpoint to rush inside. Perkins managed to shut the door. A shot was then fired into the apartment which struck Perkins in the neck.

South

A stop of a Ford Expedition on Harding Place at Humber Drive has resulted in the clearance of four South Nashville armed robbery cases.

At 1:40 p.m., a woman was at her vehicle in the parking lot of Woodbridge Apartments off Antioch Pike when a white Expedition pulled up behind her. Two passengers, a man armed with a knife and a woman armed with a machete, got out. The man demanded her purse while the woman stood by. After robbing the victim, the two got back into the Expedition and fled.

Officers saturated the area in search of the Expedition. It was spotted and stopped. Grecia Barrios (female), 25, was the driver. Alexis De Leon Mendizabal (male), 21, and Stephanie Perez, 16, were the passengers. Barrios' two children, ages four and one, were also in the vehicle. The suspects were brought to the victim for a show up. She positively identified Mendizabal and Perez as the two persons who robbed her.

During interviews at the South Precinct, Barrios admitted to being the driver in the robbery and in three other similar robberies. Mendizabal confessed to his involvement in the robbery, but not to any others. Perez denied any involvement whatsoever.

As a result of the investigation thus far, Barrios is charged with three counts of aggravated robbery for this case as well as robberies April 26th at Dominion House Apartments on Linbar Drive and May 3rd on Apache Trail. Barrios is also charged with two counts of reckless endangerment for having her children in the SUV during the robbery.

Mendizabal and Perez are each charged with one count of aggravated robbery and two counts of reckless endangerment stemming from the case.

Commander Paul Trickey on May 14th hosted apartment managers and their employees for an informational meeting in the South Precinct's community room. Officers from several different police components provided information regarding crime and fraud prevention.



Apartment managers' meeting.

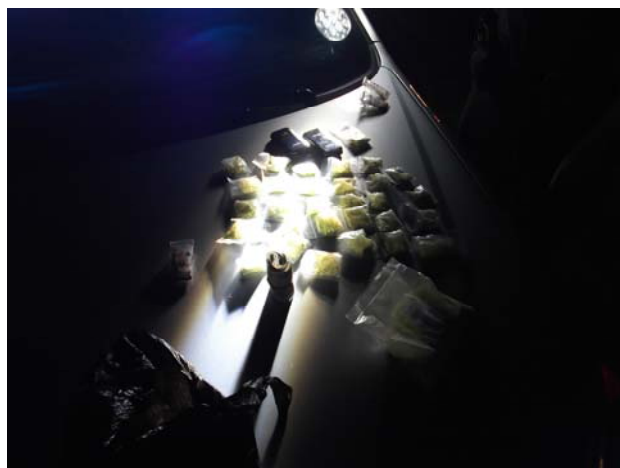
Madison

Convicted drug dealer Arsenio Frost's fast driving on Old Hickory Boulevard near Delaware Avenue in Madison resulted in the discovery of a large cache of painkillers in his vehicle (5,255 Dilaudid pills with a street value of \$105,000) and \$5,150 cash.

Madison Precinct Officer Joseph Snyder stopped Frost for driving a 2004 Chrysler Pacifica 55 mph in a 45 mph zone. Frost, 24, of Dupont Avenue, gave consent to search the SUV. During a detailed check, Officer William Hampton found the pills, packaged in separate baggies, hidden inside a compartment in the cargo area. The cash was recovered from a console in the back seat.

After the pills were discovered, Frost attempted to run from officers but was quickly apprehended. Frost, who was already on probation for felony drug convictions, is charged with felony drug possession, evading arrest and resisting arrest. He is jailed in lieu of \$120,000 bond.

Frost was convicted in 2007 of two separate felony drug counts. He received mostly suspended sentences in both cases. In 2008, Frost was sentenced to an eight year probated sentence for felony cocaine possession.



Seized pills & cash.

Madison Precinct Flex officers charged a husband and wife with manufacturing marijuana after discovering a high grade grow operation in a hidden room of their basement garage at 322 Shepherd Hills Drive.

Robert Burgeis, 37, and Daisy Burgeis, 25, are also charged with possession of marijuana for resale, gun possession in the commission of a dangerous felony and possession of drug paraphernalia.

During the execution of a search warrant, officers discovered 50 plants in the grow room, an additional 3 ½ pounds of processed marijuana in an upstairs freezer and various other jars of processed marijuana. In addition to the pistol Robert Burgeis was carrying, officers also seized 12 pistols and eight long guns from the home.

The Flex team was actually on Shepherd Hills Drive looking for a wanted individual in an unrelated matter when they detected an odor of marijuana while talking to the Burgeis couple in their front yard.



Seized marijuana

Central

Investigation by Central Precinct undercover detectives led the arrest of convicted felon Jimmy Abernathy and his girlfriend, Crystal Churn, on felony drug and weapons charges.

During the execution of a search warrant at the couple's 5809 Tru Long Court residence detectives seized more than 35 ounces of marijuana, ten ounces of cocaine, three vehicles, five flat screen TVs, computers and other electronics, a stolen .40 caliber pistol, a 12 gauge shotgun and \$14,964 cash.

Abernathy, 36, is charged with felony marijuana and cocaine possession, a crooks with guns law violation and theft. Abernathy has prior felony drug convictions in Maury and Marshall Counties.

Crystal Churn, 37, is charged with felony marijuana and cocaine possession.

Specialized Investigations Division

Specialized Investigations Division narcotics detectives charged six individuals with initiating the process to manufacture methamphetamine as the result of the May 7th execution of a search warrant at 224 Downeymeade Drive in Donelson.

The investigation revealed that meth had been cooked in the home. Found by detectives during the search were a pistol inside a lamp stand as well as the various components needed to manufacture meth, including a coffee grinder covered in white residue, Coleman fuel and empty pseudoephedrine packets.

In addition to meth manufacturing, the primary resident of the home, Joel Koenig, 38, is also being charged with possession of a gun in the commission of a dangerous felony, unlawful gun possession by a convicted felon (prior drug conviction), marijuana possession and unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia.

Five other persons were charged with meth manufacturing and possession of drug paraphernalia.



Neighbors post a sign of appreciation following the Downeymeade Drive arrests.

Interdiction Officer Thomas Spencer stopped an RV for improper display of its registration. The ten persons inside were traveling from Los Angeles to Louisville for a tattoo convention. Officer Spence smelled marijuana coming from the vehicle. A subsequent search

yielded two ounces of marijuana among the luggage, 16 marijuana/THC hard candies, four marijuana pipes, three grams of hashish and other items of drug paraphernalia.



Seized marijuana, hashish and drug paraphernalia.

Interdiction Officer David Hacker stopped a vehicle on I-40 for improper display of the license plate. The car smelled of marijuana and Hacker saw a marijuana blunt on the center console. The two persons in the car admitted traveling from Jackson, Tennessee, to Nashville for the purpose of buying marijuana. The two were carrying a combined \$11,000 in cash. A loaded .380 pistol was found under the driver's seat. As a result of the revelations of the two individuals, the cash was seized, as was the marijuana blunt and pistol. Both were issued state citations and warned about the danger associated with the drug trade.



Seized cash and pistol.

Specialized Investigations Division Gang Unit

Corey Lamont Lanier a/k/a Foot, 34, of Nashville, was sentenced yesterday by Chief U.S. District Judge William Haynes to 946 months (78 years and 10 months) in prison for his role in planning and carrying out three armed home invasion robberies.

“This defendant carried out violent armed home invasions, targeting drug dealers with impunity,” said Acting U.S. Attorney David Rivera. “His crimes endangered others and are the type of crimes that can lead to completely innocent people being killed. This sentence ends the violence.”

In a case investigated by Metro Police and the ATF, Lanier was convicted on three counts of conspiring to commit robberies affecting interstate commerce, as well as three counts of brandishing a firearm during these crimes.

According to evidence presented at trial, Lanier was an “OG” (Original Gangster) - the highest rank in the 98 Mafia Crips street gang. Lanier organized and participated in three armed home invasions that occurred in Nashville in 2009. Each home invasion targeted a location or individual suspected by Lanier and his co-conspirators to be involved in narcotics trafficking. During each instance, a group of three to four armed assailants burst into a home and held those present at gunpoint while demanding drugs and drug proceeds. During two of these robberies, young children were present when armed assailants kicked down the door, burst into the home, and threatened to kill the residents inside.

On November 17, 2009, Metro police officers, including the SWAT Team, responded to the third home invasion and arrested the assailants, who had conspired with Lanier to commit the robbery. Multiple firearms used in the home invasions were recovered. Lanier was not present at the scene of that home invasion, and was later arrested and charged with these offenses as a result of the local and federal investigation.

After his conviction and while pending sentencing, Lanier had another person create a Facebook page which included the government’s witness list with photographs of some of the victims and witnesses who Lanier described as “rats.”

At sentencing, Chief Judge Haynes found that Lanier used electronic media to “malign, harass, and intimidate government witnesses,” that Lanier’s actions posed a “particularly serious threat to these victims and witnesses” especially in light of Lanier’s status as a significant gang leader, and that Lanier continued pursuing “violent actions to terrorize people even after trial.” The court also found Lanier to be a career offender, with prior felony convictions which included a prior robbery conviction.

Based partly on Lanier’s continuing harassment and intimidation of victims and witnesses, and the court’s finding that Lanier committed “particularly egregious violent offenses which affected the victims in a horrifically emotional way,” Chief Judge Haynes denied Lanier’s request for leniency and instead imposed the maximum sentence within the Federal Sentencing Guidelines. The sentence also prohibited Lanier from contacting any of the victims, including through the Internet. Since there is no parole from federal sentences, Lanier will likely serve the rest of his life in federal prison.

Assistant U.S. Attorneys Sunny A.M. Koshy and William F. Abely prosecuted the case.

The following officers in the Field Operations Bureau were chosen Investigator, Patrol, Police and Special Operations Officer of the Month for April 2013

Patrol Officer of the Month

East Precinct Officer Sunny Park

Police Officer of the Month

Hermitage Precinct Officer Floyd Brown

Investigator of the Month

East Precinct Detective Adam Weeks

Special Operations Officer of the Month

Traffic Unit Officer Ron Bright

The following civilians were chosen Employees of the Month for January, February and March 2013

January

Human Resources Coordinator Dustin Summers

February

Warrants Section Employee Ashley O'Neal

March

Latent Examiner Linda Wilson

The following detectives in the Investigative Services Bureau were chosen Investigator of the Month for January, February and March 2013

January

Sex Crimes Unit Detective John Farrell

February

Narcotics Detectives Scott Cothran, Steven Jenkins & Andrae Starling

March

Interdiction Unit Detective David Hacker

From the District Attorney's Office

Director of Communications Susan Niland

32-year-old Daryle Thomas pled guilty to fatally stabbing his ex-girlfriend in April 2012. Thomas surrendered himself to police officers at the scene and admitted to the murder, saying he was angry over the couple's break-up. Thomas pled guilty to second degree murder. He received an out-of-range sentence of 35 years in prison at 100%.

Adam Wayne Robinson was found guilty of three counts of aggravated sexual battery of a minor.

Robinson was the groundskeeper at an apartment complex where the six-year-old victim lived. He will be sentenced on June 11th.

A jury found Freddie Lee Johnson guilty of the 1979 strangulation death of Ethel Hethcote. After a re-examination of the evidence by Cold Case Unit/Homicide detectives and additional interviews, Johnson was arrested and ultimately convicted. He was sentenced to life in prison.

Congratulations:

Officer Jaren Breece, West Precinct, and his wife welcomed Elias Creighton Breece on May 13th.



Condolences:

Lula Mae Fields, the grandmother of Teresa Anderson, School Crossing Guard Section, passed away.

The grandmother of Officer Kevin Coleman, Crash Investigation Unit, passed away.

Lin Cheng, the mother of Sergeant Po Cheng, East Precinct, passed away on May 1st.

The mother of Officer Tevares Hockett, North Precinct, and the sister of retired Officer J.O. Williamson, passed away.

Jean Meyers, the grandmother of Detective Joseph Haislip, South Precinct Investigations, passed away.