

Subject: TPD Patrol Division East Newsletter - March 2026
From: "Tucson Police Department" <tucsonpolicedepartment@public.govdelivery.com>
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TPD Patrol Newsletter

East



Captain Matthew Brady
Operations Division East

March 2026

Busy February

It's probably a good thing February only had 28 days this year...it sure was busy!

February saw the retirement of Chief Chad Kasmar, and we want to thank him for his service to Tucson and to the members of the Tucson Police Department. Chief Kasmar had direct ties to Operations Division East, as he once served as ODE commander during his tenure with TPD.

With Chief Kasmar's retirement, we welcomed our new chief, Chief Monica Prieto. We are excited to have Chief Prieto in her new role. Chief Prieto also has ties to ODE, as she once served as a lieutenant here.

ODE also opened a new Southeast Annex this month. The Rincon Annex is located at 7655 S Kolb and was funded by the voter-approved Proposition 101. We are very appreciative of the community support and the support of City leadership, especially Ward 4 Council Member Lee.

The annex serves as an auxiliary staffing location, which allows us to expand our detective unit and provide added workspace for our Zebra officers. The annex is not intended to be a space for the public to make reports; however, the annex does allow officers the ability to have a workspace in the southern part of the division, which means they can be more responsive to calls for service in that area.

February also saw the retirement of Officer Nicholas Laughlin. Officer Laughlin dedicated over 20 years of service to TPD and ODE. Always professional, he trained a number of our officers while serving as a Field Training Officer (FTO). Congratulations, Officer Laughlin, on your retirement!

Using Resources Wisely

The Tucson Police Department uses a number of evidence-based strategies to address crime. TPD has an Analysis Division that provides data and other information to different areas of the department so we can use our resources in the most effective way possible. The department also holds monthly internal Crime Reduction Meetings (CRMs), where crime trends and patterns are discussed, as well as strategies and tactics to address criminal activity.

One method TPD uses is called Problem-Oriented Precision Policing (POPP). POPP locations are determined through data and discussion.

One ODE POPP location is in the area of Broadway and Wilmot. Recently, officers working a POPP detail there noticed suspicious activity at one of the storage businesses. A surveillance camera had been disabled and was on the ground. The officers then located two individuals inside the business, attempting to hide.

The officers were able to detain the individuals, who had made entry into storage units and were removing items from them.

Both individuals were arrested on multiple felony charges.

ODE Statistics

Activity

Type	2026 Division Year to Date	2026 Department Year to Date
Calls for Service	2,586	10,763
Officer-initiated Activity	1,337	7,373
Gun-related Crime	6	29
Homicide	2	9
Traffic Citations	1,366	10,357

Staffing

Type	2026 Division Year to Date	2026 Department Year to Date
Sworn Members	103	824
Community Service Officers	26	133
Professional Staff Investigators	3	31
Professional Staff	2	231

Night to Shine





ODE members at Night to Shine.

One of the best events of the year occurred in February. Night to Shine is a national event where individuals with special needs enjoy a prom-like experience.

Dressed in semi-formal attire, each attendee is announced by name and escorted down the red carpet by a first responder in uniform.

It is such a fun and rewarding experience! Attendees were all smiles, a crowd of onlookers and paparazzi cheering for them and taking photos as they were escorted down the red carpet.

Once inside, they were treated to a dance, dinner, and other fun activities.

ODE was well represented and had a great time!

Member Highlight



Lead Patrol Officer (LPO) Zach Casper has proudly served with the Tucson Police Department since May 2019. Currently, he serves as the Lead Patrol Officer for ODE Squad 8, where he plays a key role in supporting daily operations and mentoring fellow officers.

In addition to his patrol leadership responsibilities, LPO Casper serves as a Field Training Officer (FTO). In this role, he is known for his thorough and professional approach to training new officers.

LPO Casper emphasizes the importance of a strong work ethic, discipline, attention to detail, and a deep sense of responsibility—qualities that are essential to fulfilling the mission of the Tucson Police Department. Through his mentorship, he helps shape the next generation of officers and ensures they are well prepared to serve the community.

LPO Casper has also demonstrated a strong commitment to professional development. He has enhanced his skill set by completing specialized training in Crisis Intervention Team (CIT), LIDAR, License Plate Recognition (LPR), and Hostage Response. Additionally, he has completed the instructor course for Advanced Law Enforcement Rapid Response Training (ALERRT), further strengthening his ability to train and prepare fellow officers for critical incidents.

LPO Casper's achievements exemplify the department's core values and highlight him as a role model among his peers. He has fully embraced the role of leader and has earned the respect of those around him through his dedication, professionalism, and willingness to help others improve every day.

His contributions have already made a lasting impact in the department, and we look forward to his continued success and leadership in the years ahead.

Crime Prevention Tip



Have you heard of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design? It's usually referred to by its initials, CPTED, pronounced "SEP TED."

CPTED is based on four principles:

1. Natural surveillance
2. Territorial reinforcement
3. Natural access control
4. Maintenance

It relies on environmental cues that deliver the message that this space is monitored, occupied, and cared for, and uses community building as a way to deter crime.

CPTED principles are covered in TPD's regular presentations on Crime Free Multi-Housing. To sign up for a future presentation, visit the TPD website, here:

<https://www.tucsonaz.gov/Departments/Police/Crime-Prevention/Crime-Free-Multi-Housing>

For more in-depth information, visit the U.S. CPTED Association's website and check out their CPTED guidelines, here: <https://uscpted.com/usca-national-cpted-design-guidelines/>

Upcoming Event

Division Advisory Council (DAC) meeting

April 23, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.

9670 E Golf Links Rd, Community Meeting Room

Always Recruiting



ODE has auxiliary recruiters who attend events to represent TPD, answer questions, and hopefully generate interest for someone to come join the TPD team in some way. In February, ODE was asked to attend a career fair at Santa Rita High School. ODE personnel and staff from our partners at the Public Safety Communications Department (PSCD) were able to attend and provide information about working for the City of Tucson in public safety.

Join the Tucson Police Department



Know someone who cares about Tucson and would be a good fit for TPD and Operations Division East?

Send them this QR code and encourage them to apply!

Links

[Graffiti Removal](#)

[TPD Non-Emergency Online Reporting System](#)

[Report a Code Violation](#) (weeds, trash, junked vehicles, building or sign violations)

[Report a Homeless Encampment](#)

[File a Trespass Letter](#) (for businesses)

[TPD Website](#)

For emergencies: call 911

For police non-emergencies: call (520) 791-4444

For accommodations; materials in accessible formats; foreign language interpreters; and/or materials in a language other than English, please contact the Tucson Police Department Public Information Office at (520) 791-4852 or (520) 791-2639 for TDD at least five (5) business days in advance.

Para arreglos; materiales en formatos accesibles; interpretes de idioma extranjero; y/o materiales en otro idioma que no sea inglés, por favor comunicarse al Departamento de la Policía de Tucson a la sección de Información Pública al (520) 791-4852 o (520) 791-2639 para TDD por lo menos con cinco (5) días hábiles de anticipación.

