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## MESSAGE FROM SUPT. BRODY SMOLLET UNIT COMMANDER OF 12 DIVISION

The month of April 2009 proved to be a very difficult time for this community. On Tuesday April 21 a 19 year old male by the name of Daniel LEWIS was shot and killed in the area of Aileen Ave. and Keele St. Subsequent to the murder, two other males have been arrested and charged with Second Degree Murder.

The following day, April 22, a 29 year old male by the name of Omar WAITE was shot and killed at the intersection of Jane St. and Eglinton Ave. West. This murder is still under investigation.

On Friday April 24<sup>th</sup>, a 21 year old male was shot and wounded in the leg at the corner of Jane St. and Trethewey. The man was only slightly injured and he was treated for his injuries.

These three incidents have given rise to conjecture that there is a gang war taking place in this community and a newspaper article in the Toronto Sun spoke about this possibility. While it is true that the two murder victims had ties to gangs, there is no evidence to support the theory of a “gang war” and in fact no connection has been found between any of the shootings. The last victim has no known ties to any gangs nor has he been involved with the police in the past.

Members of this community are rightly concerned about what has happened but everyone should know that all possible steps are being taken to protect the people who live and work in this area and that the Toronto Police are rigorously investigating these matters.

As I mentioned in last months bulletin, additional human resources are being deployed to 12 Division this summer, beginning in early June. There will be 32 extra officers assigned here to work solely in the Keele/Eglinton area where the majority of our shootings and other violent crimes have been occurring. These officers will be on foot and bicycles and will be responsible for enforcement activities and working with the local community to make our neighbourhoods better. I will continue to update everyone in future bulletins as the planning and implementation of this program progresses.

# 12 Division

Community Bulletin—April 1<sup>st</sup>–30<sup>th</sup> - 2009



## **12 Division Bail Compliance Unit:**

We are glad to introduce to our community the new 12 Division Bail Compliance Unit (BCU). Working alongside the 12 Division Warrants Office, the BCU is now responsible for monitoring accused persons on charges before the courts who have been released into the community under strict bail conditions.

BCU officers conduct regular checks on these accused persons to ensure that they are abiding by the conditions of their bails and BCU officers lay charges when breaches occur.

The 12 Division BCU officers are also responsible for coordinating efforts and are a resource to other Police Units and to the Crown Attorney's office.

The 12 Division BCU is being managed by Detective Eduardo Wulff, who also oversees the Warrants office and who is the 12 Division Crime Management Co-ordinator. Detective Wulff has worked for the Toronto Police Service for over 17 years. He has served in several Units including 23 Division, 31 Division, Court Services, Drug Squad and Intelligence. He can be reached in 12 Division at (416)808-1234.

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## **TRAFFIC RESPONSE UNIT**

Divisional Traffic Sergeant:

**Sgt. Sandra Gregory #1972**

Phone: 416 808-1224

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself as the new Traffic Response Sergeant for 12 Division. I have had 20 years of policing experience and I am looking forward to meeting the needs of the community in regards to traffic safety. I have been a Sergeant at 12 Division for the past five years and have become very familiar with the issues that concern the citizens in this area. The officers in the Traffic Response Unit are assigned to pay special attention to problem areas in order to promote safe use of the roadways and sidewalks by all within our division and throughout the city. If you have a specific traffic complaint that you would like officers to address, you may contact my office or complete a Traffic Complaints Form. This form can be picked up at 12 Station or you may print one from the station's Web page (<http://www.torontopolice.on.ca/d12/>). Once this form has been completed and returned to our office, the Traffic Complaints Officer will endeavour to take appropriate action to resolve the problem.



With the warmer weather approaching, many motorcycle enthusiasts are taking to the roads. Here are some safety tips for riders:

**Helmets save lives, and are required in Ontario by law - Almost 10% of riders killed and almost 15% of riders injured in collisions were not wearing helmets.**

- Always wear an approved motorcycle helmet and protective gear when riding.
- High-quality riding gear can protect you in the event of a fall or collision. Always wear long sleeves and pants to protect your skin.
- Consider wearing a jacket with padding in the shoulders and elbows, leather gloves and pants and boots. Ensure that protective gear does not interfere with riding or controls.
- Wear bright colours, such as red, yellow or orange or reflective clothing to make yourself more visible to other motorists.
- Many motorcycle collisions occur between 11 a.m. and 8 p.m. Always ride with lights on to increase visibility.

**Be seen at intersections – over one third of motorcycle collisions are intersection related.**

- Watch for vehicles that may make a left turn across your path or pull out from a side street.
- Don't assume that other drivers see you. Drivers that have collided with motorcycles often say they did not see the motorcycle until it was too late.
- Approach intersections slowly, move as far away as you can from the other vehicle and avoid being in other drivers' blind spots.
- When making a right turn, angle your motorcycle across the lane (45 degrees) to create a larger blocking position and to make yourself more visible to drivers behind you. Riding in the blocking position prevents other vehicles from sharing the lane or getting too close to you. As the term implies, the blocking position "blocks" other vehicles from sharing your lane.
- Be sure to check over your shoulder for any cars or pedestrians before proceeding with the turn.



### **Avoid drugs and alcohol**

- Drinking alcohol before riding increases your chances of having a collision.
- Alcohol can affect your ability to handle your motorcycle safely at blood alcohol levels below the legal limit.
- Drugs (including prescription drugs) can affect your ability to drive a motorcycle safely. Make sure you know the effects of any drug before you drive.

### **Communicate with other drivers - in almost half of all motorcycle collisions, the motorist is at fault, not the motorcyclist.**

- Other drivers need to see you and know if you are planning to turn or change lanes.
- Always use your indicators to signal lane changes, and make eye contact with other drivers.
- Check over your shoulder often to make sure other drivers are not crowding you.
- Use your horn if necessary.

### **Maintain proper lane position.**

- The centre of the lane is not a good position because it may be coated with oil from other vehicles and it gets slippery when wet.
- In the right lane, you should be slightly to the left of centre, and in the passing lane you should be slightly to the right of the centre. This provides good visibility and blocks other vehicles from trying to squeeze by you in the same lane.
- Move into the blocking position in your new lane when making left or right turns.

### **Keep a cushion of space around you.**

- Always leave a cushion of space around your motorcycle to let other drivers see you and to avoid a collision.
- Keep alert for all other traffic, including vehicles in front, behind, coming toward you and approaching from the side.
- Be aware of other vehicles passing you.



### **Always ride at a speed appropriate for road and weather conditions.**

- Speeding and loss of control are major causes of motorcycle collisions.
- Speeding in rain, decreased visibility or strong winds could cause you to lose control and crash.
- Watch for hazardous road conditions, including pot holes, loose gravel, railroad tracks or fluid spills.
- Be especially careful around sharp turns and curves. Motorcyclists can misjudge curves and overshoot the road into the path of oncoming traffic.

### **Sharpen your riding skills.**

- A motorcycle skills course will enhance your skills.
- It's important to be familiar with your motorcycle and how to react to problems.
- Practice counter steering and brake control in safe situations.
- Click here for a link to [ministry-approved motorcycle training facilities](#).
- Refer to the Official Motorcycle Handbook for more safety tips.

I would also like to remind motorists to take extra time to check for motorcycles and bicycles, especially when changing lanes and making turns.

### **Traffic Enforcement Activities:**

During the month of April there were approximately 140 collisions of which 20 collisions resulted in a personal injury. Unfortunately on April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2009 on Townsley Street just west of Old Weston Road and Pedestrian was struck by a motor vehicle. As a result, the pedestrian died from his injuries sustained during this collision. This collision is still being investigated and if you have any information in regards to this collision please contact Traffic Services at 416 808-1900.

On April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009 the first of several Commercial Motor Vehicle Safety Inspection blitzes was conducted. A total of 41 vehicles were inspected on this day which resulted in 8 vehicles taken out of services and a 31 offence notices issued for safety related offences.

## 12 Division

### Community Bulletin—April 1<sup>st</sup>–30<sup>th</sup> - 2009



Between April 15 – 26<sup>th</sup>, 2009 the well publicized Provincial Seat Belt Traffic safety campaign was conducted where 277 charges were laid in 12 Division. Several Infant/Child Safety Seats were inspected during the campaign and on April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2009 a Child Safety Seat Inspection Clinic was held in the parking lot of Walmart at St. Clair Avenue and Runnymede. During this clinic 107 vehicles requested an inspection in which a total 143 car seats were inspected, most of which the child seats were improperly installed.

Another Traffic Campaign was conducted specifically in 12 Division by the Traffic Response Officers and members of Parking West during the week of April 20 – 26<sup>th</sup>, 2009. The focus of this initiative was to promote safety and educate motorist in the area of School Zones and Pedestrian Crossovers. All parking offences and moving violations were monitored resulting 201 offence notices being issued with several others cautioned for their driving actions.

10 R.I.D.E. spot checks were conducted in which 1,767 were stopped and checked for possible Impaired Driving. Fourteen individuals were tested for possible Drinking and Driving with two of these individuals having their driver's licence suspended for 12 hour. As of May 1<sup>st</sup> these individual would be facing a minimum of a 3-day suspension, vehicle impounded and a re-instatement fee for there licence. A 2<sup>nd</sup> offence will result in a 7-day suspension and required attendance education session and a 3<sup>rd</sup> will result in a 30-day suspension, educational component and a ignition interlock device installed in their vehicle.

With that be said, it is alleged on April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2009 Fransico PINTO (32 years) was operating a motor vehicle northbound on Black Creek Drive was stopped by officers conducting a R.I.D.E. program. The strong odour of alcohol was noted by the officer and a screening device test was conducted in which the driver failed. He was then taken for breath tests which resulted in reading 199 milligrams and 198 milligrams of alcohol. The driver was charged with Drive Over 80 Milligrams.

Also, it is alleged on April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2009 Justin FRAGOSO (19 years) was operating a motor vehicle southbound on Keele Street. This vehicle was emitting a loud noise from its muffler and was stopped by the officer. The officer was able to locate a quantity of Drugs and arrested the driver. The driver was charged with Possession for the Purpose of Trafficking – Marihuana.

During general patrol another 5 individuals had their licences suspended for having 50 milligrams or higher of alcohol in their system and two other drivers were suspended for 'Stunt – Driving' offences.

Remember Drink responsibly. Sobriety is no accident.



## **12 DIVISION ARRESTS OF THE MONTH:**

### **1: Five Female Young Offenders Attack & Rob Another Female Youth Taking Bus on Way Home from Local Public School:**

It is alleged that: on Thursday, April 9<sup>th</sup> the victim was on her way home from school onboard a bus when the five accused girls got on the bus in the Jane and Lawrence area. The victim recognized some of them from school when they boarded. The group came to the back of the bus where the victim was seated and started an altercation with her and then tried to take her purse and cell phone. The victim managed to hang onto her purse but the phone was taken from her and the five accused then got off the bus with the phone. The police were called and, as a result of further investigation, the five accused were identified and arrested. A sixth girl is still outstanding at the time of writing. All five were arrested and charged with robbery and released on bail to their parents pending trial. An added charge of Mischief was laid against one of the accused as a result her damaging an interview room wall while in custody.

**Arrested:** Five Young Offenders Who Cannot be Named

**Charges:** Robbery x 5

### **2: Male Already Out on Bail & Probation for Similar Offences Arrested by 12 Division Officers After Car Owner Alerts Police:**

It is alleged that: on Tuesday, April 14<sup>th</sup> at approximately 2.30am, the accused who is currently out of jail on both bail and probation was observed entering a parking lot in the area of Prescott and St. Clair Avenue. The accused then broke into a car parked there and ransacked the interior looking for items to steal. He then broke into three more vehicles before being spotted by the owner of one of the cars who alertly flagged down nearby officers. He provided a description of the accused to the officers who quickly located the accused nearby and placed him under arrest. He was taken to the station where he was



investigated further and found to be out on bail as well as on probation for the same offences. He was charged accordingly and held in custody pending yet another mandatory bail hearing.

**Arrested:** **DASILVA** Adam, 29 years of Toronto

**Charges:** Mischief x 4  
Attempt Theft x 4  
Theft  
Possession of Property Obtained by Crime  
Possession of Burglars Tools  
Fail to Comply – Probation  
Fail to Comply - Undertaking

### **3: Male Charged with Numerous Offences After He Attacks Another Man in Apartment Then His Dog When the Intended Victim Flees:**

It is alleged that: on Thursday, April 11<sup>th</sup> during the early evening hours the accused was in an apartment, rented by the victim along with several others including a 4-year child who was sleeping. An argument started up between the victim and the accused which became more and more heated as time went on. The accused was asked to leave but refused and then made violent threats against the victim. He got a large knife from the kitchen and continued his threats while waving the knife around. A shoving match broke out and when the accused attacked the victim with the knife, the victim ran off and locked himself in the bedroom. The accused then shouted that he would stab the victim's dog if he couldn't get him and then did so, stabbing the dog in the back near the shoulder area. The dog panicked and ran off yelping in pain with the knife still stuck in its back. The victim came to the dog's rescue and the accused then got another knife and started threatening the victim again but fled with the knife when police were called. Officers attended and, while there, the accused returned and started knocking on the apartment door to be let in but, when told to go away, he was heard to yell yet another death threat at the victim. The accused was arrested by the attending officers in the building

## 12 Division

**Community Bulletin—April 1<sup>st</sup>–30<sup>th</sup> - 2009**



hallway and taken to 12 Division where he was investigated, charged accordingly and held in custody pending a mandatory bail hearing. Injuries to the dog and its current condition are unknown at time of writing.

**Arrested:** **HAUGHTON** Conroy Ohare, 18 years of Toronto

**Charges:** Assault  
Threatening Bodily Harm x 2  
Weapons Dangerous  
Assault with a Weapon  
Threatening Animals  
Attempt Killing or Injuring Animals  
Theft

### **4: A 19 Year-old & Two Young Offenders are Arrested on Robbery Charges After Attacking Two 15 yr-old Youth:**

It is alleged that: on Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup>, the two victims were walking along Denison Road when the three accused approached the two victims and deliberately bumped into them. The three accused then began to punch the victims who ran off in separate directions with all three chasing one of the victims. They quickly caught up to him and knocked him to the ground where they began punching and kicking him while one of them took his back-pack. Officers from 12 Division were in the area and gave chase to the accused parties and quickly arrested one, through the use of a canine officer, the other two were located. All three were taken to the station, charged and held in custody pending a mandatory bail hearing.

**Arrested:** **SAGHER** Khaled Marc, 19 years of Toronto  
2 Young Offenders Who Cannot be Named

**Charges:** Robbery x 2



## **COMMUNITY BASED ACTIVITIES**

### **COMMUNITY RESPONSE UNIT:**

Our officers are very involved in our neighbourhoods. Here are a few of the activities in which they have participated during the four weeks. CRU officers have issued 288 Provincial Offences Tickets, arrested 16 people, and investigated approximately 520 others. Most recently they attended several addresses with local Liquor Inspectors and they have laid 6 charges covering liquor offences against the people operating the respective premises. They have also attended 13 public meetings or community events, 41 school visits, -+ and have paid special attention to separate areas involving 86 activity checks where there have been community complaints.

Since the beginning of the year, CRU officers have issued 1173 Highway Traffic Act tickets and investigated approximately 1476 people for varying reasons with 70 people being arrested. The CRU will also continue to pay special attention to licenced premises, after hours clubs, and booze cans within 12 Division. Their efforts since the beginning of the year have resulted in 232 Liquor Licence Act charges being laid. In other areas of concern, they arrested 1 person for prostitution activities, made 26 drug arrests, and investigated & arrested 5 people for robbery. In relation to weapons offences, so far this year there have been 17 charges laid.

### **COMMUNITY SAFETY OFFICER COMMENTS:**

#### **What is the Toronto Anti-Violence Intervention Strategy:**

The Toronto Anti-Violence Intervention Strategy, or TAVIS for short, is the plan that the Toronto Police Service is using to reduce violence and fear in neighbourhoods. The plan uses community mobilization to:

# 12 Division

## Community Bulletin—April 1<sup>st</sup>–30<sup>th</sup> - 2009



- Reduce crime and disorder
- Make neighbourhoods safer, and
- Bring neighbours together to keep their neighbourhood safe and liveable.

### **What is Community Mobilization?**

For the Toronto Police Service, community mobilization is a way to bring all the people in your neighbourhood – residents, businesses, community and government services, and the police – together to plan and carry out activities that will resolve crime and disorder issues.

What that really means, is that everyone has to commit to work together to improve your neighbourhood.

### **How Can I Get Involved?**

A safe and liveable neighbourhood needs everyone to be involved, including you! There are many ways to participate. For example, you can:

- Hold or attend a community meeting to discuss how to make your neighbourhood safer
- Create or participate in activities that may offer solutions to on-going problems
- Tell a police officer or call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) about a crime and disorder problem in your neighbourhood

### **How Can I Get More Information?**

You can visit the TAVIS Home Page on the Toronto Police Service website located at ([www.torontopolice.on.ca](http://www.torontopolice.on.ca)) or call or drop into your local police station.

**Remember if it sounds too good to be true, it probably is.**



**COMMUNITY CALENDAR:**

Here is a list of community-based activities for the month of May that officers from 12 Division will attend. If you would like a Toronto Police Service representative from 12 Division to attend your community event, please contact 12 Division at 416-808-1200 and ask for the Community Response Staff Sergeant.

**POLICE WEEK RUNS FROM MAY 11<sup>TH</sup> THRU 15<sup>TH</sup>**

**May**

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
					1	<b>2</b> Jane's Walk - Weston, Meet @ GO Stn. 11.00 am
<b>3</b> Jane's Walk – Mt. Dennis Contact Mt. Dennis Community Ctr for details 416 242-7031	4	<b>5</b> Weston PCP Meeting @ 1901 Weston Rd @ 7:00 PM Safety Audit to be Conducted on Weston Rd.	6	7	8	9
10	<b>11</b> <u>Start of Police Week</u> For list of activities visit the TPS website	12	13	<b>14</b> Police Community Partnership Mtg. 7:00pm @ 1884 Davenport Rd.	<b>15</b> <u>End of Police Week</u>	16
17	18	19	20	<b>21</b> Community Police Liaison Committee Meeting@12 Div. 7:30pm	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						