



MESSAGE FROM SUPT. BRODY SMOLLET UNIT COMMANDER OF 12 DIVISION

We are just beginning a new year and like every other new year, this brings new hope for the future. I wish everyone the best for 2009. May it be a happy, safe and prosperous year.

I want to take this opportunity to advise everyone of the overall crime picture for the past year. Of the 7 major crime indicators that our Service uses to judge safety concerns, 12 Division was lower in all categories for 2008 than we were in 2007, with the exception of break and enters which saw a small increase of about 4%. While this is good news, it does not address the full picture.

As you are probably aware, 12 Division experienced many incidents of violence involving firearms, and in fact there were more in 2008 than the previous two years. We also saw a substantial increase in the number of firearms that we seized from suspects during this same time frame. In the month of September alone there were 10 people shot in 12 Division and one of them died. There were a total of 5 homicides in the division in 2008.

One of the main goals for the officers in 12 Division for this New Year will be to lower the level of violence in this community. We will be deploying all available resources, both from within 12 Division and also from other areas of our Service, to try and accomplish this. We will continue to utilize TAVIS initiatives in conjunction with community resources to help curb this violence.

I would like to remind everyone that as a part of the community, we should all be involved in making this a safer place to live and work. Get involved. Work with your local community groups and the police to help accomplish this common objective. Without assistance from all parts of our community, we will not succeed, but together we can accomplish anything.

I am look forward to working with our community partners. If you need to speak to me, I can be reached at 416-808-1213.

Remember, your neighbourhood is our neighbourhood!



ARRESTS OF THE MONTH:

1 YOUNG OFFENDER ALREADY OUT ON BAIL ARRESTED ON DRUG TRAFFICKING CHARGES AFTER 3 MONTH INVESTIGATION:

It is alleged that: the accused youth was arrested on December 1st on numerous drug trafficking charges which culminated a three month long investigation in the Keele & Eglinton area. The accused had sold various amounts and types of cocaine and had conspired to supply further amounts to officers, he was also found to have a quantity of Marijuana on him when arrested. Two other adult males were also involved and are still outstanding at the time of writing, but warrants have been issued for their arrests and their arrests are eminent. The 17 year old youth was taken to 12 Division where he was investigated further and found to be already out on bail from previous charges and was held in custody pending yet another mandatory bail hearing.

Arrested: A Young Offender Who Cannot be Identified

Charges: Trafficking in Cocaine x 3
Possessions of Proceeds of Crime
Conspiracy to Commit an Indictable Offence
Possession of Marijuana for the Purpose of Trafficking
Fail to Comply Bail – Y.C.J.A.

15 YEAR OLD YOUTH ARRESTED ON ROBBERY CHARGES AFTER HE ATTEMPTS TO ROB A STORE ON TRETHERWEY DRIVE:

It is alleged that: the accused youth entered a store located in the 600 block of Trethewey Drive on December 6th and confronted the clerk located there. While armed with a large kitchen knife, which he brandished at the clerk, he grabbed her arm and demanded that she open the cash register. She tried to open it hitting numerous register keys but was so frightened she couldn't get it to open. When the register wouldn't open the youth panicked, dropping the knife and ran out of the store in an unknown direction. The victim called 911 and police attended quickly and were able to obtain a description of the suspect.

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He was arrested without incident a short distance away by 12 Division officers and taken to the station where he was investigated further, charged accordingly and held in custody pending a mandatory bail hearing.

Arrested: A Young Offender Who Cannot be Identified

Charge: Robbery

ANOTHER YOUTH ALREADY OUT ON BAIL FOR ROBBERY, INTIMIDATION & CONSPIRACY ARRESTED FOR ASSAULT:

It is alleged that: the accused youth was arrested by Ottawa Police in April of this year on charges of Robbery x 3, Intimidation x 3, Possession of Stolen Property x 3, and Conspiracy to Commit an Indictable Offence x 3. He was later released on bail with certain conditions which included keeping the peace and being of good behaviour. Most recently the accused was arrested by 12 Division officers after he entered a restaurant located in the Keele and Eglinton area and assaulted a female who was seated inside. He made accusations about her throwing an egg at him sometime previously and then grabbed her by the hair and held her head while he punched her in the face with his other hand. The blow left her feeling dizzy and light headed and caused minor bruising to her face. The 16 year old accused then fled on foot and left the area while the victim returned to school where she reported the incident to a teacher. The police were called and the accused was located later on by officers from 12 Division who placed him under arrest and transported him to the station. He was investigated further and found to be out on bail and was charged accordingly and held in custody pending yet another mandatory bail hearing.

Arrested: A Young Offender Who Cannot be Identified

Charges: Assault
Fail to Comply – Recognizance (Bail)
Revocation of Bail



Domestic Violence in Our Community

Domestic Violence has historically been and continues to be a big problem within our community in 12 Division.

12 Division has a very diverse cultural community; however, domestic violence affects every cultural, social, and economic group. It does not discriminate by age, culture, religion, social status, education, sex or sexual orientation. Although the majority of victims are women, men can also be victims of domestic violence.

The 12 Division Domestic Violence Team works with many of the local community and cultural groups to promote education about the issues of domestic violence and offer support to those struggling in a violent relationship.

Most domestic violence situations are complicated. Victims are fearful and vulnerable, children are often involved. Victims, due to isolation do not feel that they have support networks available to them. The removal of the abuser often also means the removal of the family's source of income, with this, a whole new set of problems arises.

The police have a duty and obligation to ensure the safety of all the people involved. This includes ensuring that medical attention is provided for any injured person. It also includes ensuring that a place of safety is available and provided for the victim and her children if it is required. It also involves contacting the appropriate Children's Aid Society for follow up to ensure the safety of any children in the home.

We also have an obligation to conduct a thorough investigation and bring an offender before the courts to face the appropriate charges.

Co-operation with the police is the best way to ensure that the appropriate action is taken for each individual situation. The police want to help, but can be of the best assistance when they have a clear understanding of what is important to each victim, and knowing what will make each individual victim feel safer and more comfortable.

Domestic violence has a severe impact on a victim as well as their family. The physical injuries alone can be very traumatic, but it is more commonly the emotional and psychological harm that are the most devastating.

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The cycle of violence continually works to isolate the victim from their family and friends. The feelings of isolation, loneliness, fear, and pain can be psychologically devastating and inhibiting their ability to seek assistance. Going through the court process is also very straining on a family. When the abuser is arrested and removed from the home, children do not understand the process and will often feel resentment for a parent being taken away. It suddenly puts the victim in single parent situation and financial struggles often become more difficult and the victims often feel overwhelmed.

The main goal of the Domestic Violence Team is to break the cycle of violence and provide assistance and support for the victim.

The Domestic Violence Team works with a large number of resources within our community which are available to the victims of domestic abuse and her family.

The Victim Services organization is a referral agency that will assess each individual situation and then refer the victims to the services and agencies that best suit their needs.

There are also a wide variety of shelters within the city that specialize in assisting victims of domestic violence and children.

We are very fortunate in Toronto to have such a large number of social agencies and services available to assist us and it would be impossible to name them all.

It is important to reach out to victims as well as to the leaders within many different communities. Victims need to know that they are not alone, help and support is available and is only a phone call away. The Domestic Violence Team along with our community partners want to help victims re-build their lives and get back on their feet again without the fear of violence or retaliation.

The Domestic Violence Unit at 12 Division is available Monday to Friday. Either my-self (Det. Cst. McConnell), or my partner, Det. Cst. Livy-Joseph is available to discuss any concerns or answer questions. 416-808-1231 or 416-808-1233.



TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES:

Divisional Traffic Sergeant:

Sgt. Michael Mersereau #3942

Phone: 416 808-1224

Traffic enforcement and safety is a priority of our Service and one of the core functions of all police officers. Traffic Response Unit officers are assigned to pay special attention to problem areas; including High accident locations, aggressive driving and community complaints as well as providing general traffic enforcement within the division. If you have a driving complaint that you would like to report, you can contact my office or attend at the station to have a report submitted. I will attempt to ensure that each complaint is addressed and appropriate action is delivered.

Much publicity has been made with respect to the consequences in regards to drinking and driving and the affect on one's driving privileges and criminal charge resulting from poor judgement. With the holiday season just finishing I want to continue to remind all the reason why not to drink and drive and the affects of alcohol on an individual's ability to operate a motor vehicle.

How does alcohol affect driving?

Drinking and driving is a deadly combination. One drink can reduce your ability to concentrate and react to things that happen suddenly when you are driving. The more alcohol in your blood, the more trouble you have judging distances, and your vision may become blurred.

Alcohol is a depressant that slows reflexes, clouds judgment, and makes the mind wander. It all adds up to trouble behind the wheel.

Drivers with a Blood Alcohol Concentration (BAC) of 0.05 percent or above will have noticeable trouble steering or parking. By the time a driver reaches a BAC of 0.08 percent, he has real difficulty keeping track of two things at once. If he's paying close attention to the speedometer, he probably isn't watching the cars in the next lane. His peripheral vision suffers, and he'll have trouble following moving objects with his eyes.

Once BAC goes over 0.10, a person will have slow reaction times and poor control over his body. When he's on two feet, he'll sway and stagger. As a pedestrian, he could be in imminent danger of getting hit by a car. Behind the wheel, this individual is primed for an accident.



Impaired driving means your ability to operate a vehicle is affected by alcohol or a drug which will result in loss of your licence; a criminal charged resulting in a fine or time in jail.

Any drug that changes your mood, or the way you see and feel the world will affect the way you drive. Besides illegal drugs, some drugs that your doctor may prescribe for you and some over-the-counter drugs can also impair your driving.

Here are some points to remember:

- Don't drink any alcohol if you are going to drive....period.
- Ask your doctor about side effects if you use prescription medicines or get allergy shots.
- Read the information on the package of any over-the-counter medicine including allergy and cold remedies.
- Drugs and alcohol together can have dangerous effects; ask your doctor or pharmacist.
- Remember, fatigue and stress will also affect your driving

Motorists should plan ahead. If you expect to drink, make alternate travel arrangements. If you're driving and then decide to drink, leave your car where it is and take a taxi or the bus.

The Consequences

Immediate Licence Suspension

Drivers who provide a sample over the legal limit (.08) or refuse a breath test will have their driver's licence suspended immediately for 90 days and will be required to pay a \$150 Administrative Monetary Penalty, prior to reinstatement. This 90-day suspension is separate and distinct from any criminal charges a driver faces in court.

Consequences of Conviction

In addition to the monetary costs facing convicted drinking drivers the following penalties apply: An impaired driving conviction under the *Criminal Code* results in a suspension



under the *Highway Traffic Act* and a driving prohibition under the *Criminal Code*. The following shows the **minimum** penalties and consequences.

	Consequences under the <i>Highway Traffic Act</i>	Minimum Penalties under the <i>Criminal Code</i>
First Offence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 year licence suspension • Remedial measures requirement • Minimum 1 year ignition interlock condition upon reinstatement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 year driving prohibition • \$600 fine
Second Offence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3-year licence suspension • Remedial measures requirement • Minimum 3 years ignition interlock condition upon reinstatement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2-year driving prohibition • 14-day jail sentence
Third Offence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lifetime licence suspension (reducible to 10 years if remedial measures requirement and other conditions met) • Ignition interlock condition for life if suspension reduced 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3-year driving prohibition • 90-day jail sentence
Fourth and Subsequent Offence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lifetime licence suspension • No possibility of reinstatement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Same as third offence

Zero Blood Alcohol Concentration (BAC) for New Drivers

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Drivers in the Graduated Licensing System must maintain a zero BAC while driving. If they breach this condition, they face a 30-day licence suspension and must pay a fine.

The best way to avoid serious and costly problems is simple: either don't drink - or don't drive.

Traffic Enforcement Activities:

Drinking and Driving is a major concern for our officers with 14 percent of all the Impaired Driving and Over 80 milligram offences occurring the City of Toronto for the past three months being individuals who reside in 12 Division.

During December officers from the 12 division investigated a total of 150 accidents many as a result of poor winter driving habits. Fortunately, only 13 accidents had resulted in injuries of which none were major.

12 Division conducted thirteen R.I.D.E. spot checks this month with 29 individuals requested to provide samples of their breath into a Roadside Screening device for suspected drinking and driving. The following individuals were arrested by 12 Division for Drinking and Driving related offences:

Arturo ALEJANDRO	47 years	December 6, 2008
Rasul SHABIR	29 years	December 8, 2008
Quida CROSSMAN	52 years	December 13, 2008
Joe FAZZINA	40 years	December 20, 2008
Ailex ROBERTS	34 Years	December 26, 2008
Fernado CARVALHO	30 years	December 27, 2008
Nathaniel WALKER	60 years	December 28, 2008

On top of the criminal charges; these individuals currently have a 90 Day driver's licence suspension as well. Another six individuals were issued with 12 hour suspension for having concentration of alcohol over 50 milligrams.

Drive safely and be patient during the remainder of winter; if you are going to Drink, don't ever Drive, plan ahead and arrange for a designated driver or take a Taxi.



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 in during the four weeks. CRU officers have issued 184 Provincial Offences Tickets, arrested 15 people and investigated approximately 370 others. Most recently they attended several addresses on occasion with local Liquor Inspectors and they have laid 113 charges covering liquor offences against the people operating the respective premises. They have also attended 3 public meetings or community events, 35 school visits; they also paid special attention to 5 separate areas involving 31 activity checks where there have been community complaints.

Since the beginning of the year, CRU officers have issued 2519 Highway Traffic Act tickets and investigated approximately 4460 people for varying reasons with 279 people being arrested. The CRU will also continue to pay special attention to licenced premises, after hour's clubs, and booze cans within 12 Division. Their efforts since the beginning of the year have resulted in 776 Liquor Licence Act charges being laid. In other areas of concern they arrested 6 people for prostitution activities, made 86 drug arrests and investigated & arrested 23 people for robbery and in relation to weapons offences so far this year there have been 43 charges laid.

COMMUNITY SAFETY OFFICER COMMENTS:

TELEPHONE & EMAIL FRAUD

Warning signs

There are many worthy charities that may contact you during the year but, before you open your wallet or pull out your credit card, make sure that the charity is legitimate.



PhoneBusters, Canada's anti-fraud call centre, offers some warning signs that you can look for:

Name game: *Fake charities often use names that are very close to the names of legitimate and respected charities. With the hectic schedules people have these days, many may not take the time to research a charity and can end up handing their money directly over to criminals.*

E-mail requests: *Be wary of appeals for donations made by e-mail, especially if it comes from an organization you have not dealt with previously. Most reputable charities will not initiate contact with an e-mail that requests a donation and will only make e-mail appeals after they have built a trusting relationship.*

Unwarranted thanks: *A common technique used by fraudsters is to thank a person for a donation they don't remember making and then ask for follow-up information to "confirm" the donation. But be careful: the information you provide could be used for a number of fraudulent activities.*

Protect yourself

While there are criminals out there who will try to take advantage of people's good nature, PhoneBusters recommends you take the following steps to ensure your charitable donations go to those who need it most:

Remember *never to give out your personal or financial information over the phone or at the door. If you receive a request for information, thoroughly research the organization before providing any and ask why they require it. Also don't be afraid to refuse if you don't feel comfortable giving out such information.*

If *you receive a telephone call from a charity, remember the person on the line could be misrepresenting a legitimate charity. Ask for information about the charity to be sent to you in writing, including their charitable tax number, which can be confirmed online with Revenue Canada.*

Call *the charity. Find out if they know about the appeal and have authorized it and also ask what percentage of the contribution they will receive from the money you donated. Perhaps the charity will suggest a better way to give, where 100 per cent of your donation will reach people in need.*



Ask how much of your gift will be used directly by the charity and how much will go toward administrative costs. Legitimate charities are prepared to answer these questions and have the information readily available.

If you receive a request for a cheque, always make it payable to the charity and never to an individual person. Also, consider mailing the cheque later as opposed to handing it over to someone who just knocked on your door.

Another approach PhoneBusters suggests you take to ensure that you are protected from fraudulent charities is to decide at the beginning of each year which charities you will support and send payment directly to their head office. Then when approached by subsequent charities you can say that you have already given to the charities of your choice.

For more fraud tips, visit the [Fraud and Security](#) section of the Canadian Bankers Association website or PhoneBusters at www.phonebusters.com.

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 January 2009 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.

JANUARY 2009

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4	5	6 Weston PCP Meeting @ 1901 Weston Rd 7:00 PM	7	8 Police Community Partnership Mtg. 7:00pm @ 1884 Davenport Rd.	9	10
11	12	13	14	15 Community Police Liaison Committee Meeting @ 12 Division 7:30pm	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31