It is happening all too often, “The Chase.” I have recently read on more than one occasion citizens chasing suspicious people or someone they deemed as a suspect. The question I have is, why? For what reason are you endangering your life to identify a suspicious person, save a piece of property or solve a problem of your home being toilet papered. The dangers of chasing anyone no matter the crime or lack there of can end badly for you. Let me put this in perspective for you. You choose to chase someone for whatever you see fit, (I’ve heard them all and to this day not one excuse I’ve heard from a citizen warranted a chase) the suspicious person or suspect flees your immediate area and you give chase on foot. This is where things can go seriously wrong for you. What your thinking about is protecting your property and family by catching the bad guy, bringing them to justice. Quite honestly what you’ve done is actually made yourself more vulnerable and you have jeopardized a lot more than what the person your chasing was interested in in the first place.

Becoming the Hero. Let’s say you catch up to this person and you put your hands on them. You detain them by whatever means possible and the police are called. There are varying outcomes to this scenario based on whether a crime has been committed or if this person is just suspicious. Nonetheless, you’ve saved the day! Or have you? Perhaps you’ve compounded your issues. When all is said and done you may get a pat on the back, a thank you or a commendation worthy of your risky move. Officers will walk away shaking their head wondering why you jeopardized your safety to become a hero for just a moment. Trust me, it’s not worth it.

Compounding your problems. I have been in many foot pursuits. I have caught the bad guys, I have also been out run having to employ other tactics such as perimeters while using other resources in order to find the fleeing suspicious person/suspect. I’ve chased suspects and suspicious people through parking lots with many obstacles, down city streets where traffic is flowing, in and out of yards with loose dogs and over six foot block walls with unknown hazards on the other side (continued page 5).
## Phoenix Gun Buyback Program

The Gun Buyback Program will provide residents an opportunity to voluntarily turn in unwanted firearms in exchange for gift cards while engaging our communities towards a common goal of reducing gun violence and improving safety. In partnership with Mayor Greg Stanton, the Phoenix Police Department, Arizonans for Gun Safety, and faith-based organizations, the gun buyback effort will provide three centralized locations where firearms can be turned in anonymously, no questions asked.

The reward per gun...

- $100.00 gift card for hand guns, shot guns, and rifles
- $200.00 gift card for assault weapons

For more information log onto: http://phoenix.gov/police/gunbuyback2013.html

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### Community Meeting

May 22, 2013
6:30-7:30 pm
Mountain View Precinct
2075 E. Maryland Ave.

**Topic:** Gangs

**Presenter:** Detectives from the Gang Enforcement Bureau

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### Event location:

**Southminster Presbyterian**
1923 East Broadway Road

**Betania Presbyterian**
2811 North 39th Avenue

**Sunnyslope Mennonite Church**
9835 North 7th Street
BOLOCOP replaces Fax Net 1

In an effort to expand communication between police agencies and the communities they serve, the Arizona Crime Prevention Association (ACPA) began a business merger in 2012 with Fax Net 1. As part of the transition, Fax Net 1 was renamed “BOLOCOP” as the program expanded from statewide to a nationwide website platform. This site uses the most current technology in providing police agencies an easy method of distributing crime related information to local community and business groups.

To receive police alerts specific to you, your neighborhood and business regarding suspect information, crimes, missing persons and more, register for FREE at BOLOCOP.COM

BOLOCOP (Be On The Look Out)

Phoenix is the first municipality in the nation to launch a free application that allows residents with smart phones to point, click and send photos of graffiti, over-height weeds, abandoned shopping carts and other blight violations to the city’s Neighborhood Services Department (NSD). These applications also allow users to choose an option to receive updates on the status of their request.

For iPhone Users: Download the myPhxAZ application from the iPhone App store by searching for the keyword “myPhoenix” and selecting myPhxAZ.

For Droid-type Phone Users:
Download the application from the Droid Market by searching for the keyword “myphoenix” then clicking on My Phoenix. Residents can still continue to report blight to NSD by e-mail at blight@phoenix.gov, by phone at 602-262-7844 or online via the “Report Blight” or “Report Graffiti” mail forms available on the Requests for Services webpage.

Community Meeting

Mountain View Precinct
May 22, 2013
2075 E. Maryland Ave.
6:30-7:30 pm
Gangs Presentation

Dust Hurts

Dust Hurts our Health....

Controlling dust pollution is imperative to our respiratory health. When inhaled, the smallest of dust particles can create or aggravate health problems such as asthma, Valley Fever, and cardiovascular disease. Those particularly vulnerable are children, the elderly and those with existing lung conditions.

Dust Hurts our Pocketbooks....

The valley faces the potential loss of billions of dollars in federal funding for streets and highway projects if dust levels are not controlled. Creating dust pollution can result in hefty fines.

The Cost to You....

- Criminal Violation and more than $500 fine: For trespassing with ATV or other vehicle on private property
- $100 to $2,500 fine: For property owners who allow parking on non-dustproofed surfaces
- $267 fine: For parking on non-dustproofed lots
- $171 fine: For cutting through alleys or driving on vacant lots
- $211 fine: For spills on unsecured or uncovered truck loads
- More fines and possible jail time: For dumping dirt or trash

Ways to Reduce Dust Pollution....

- Avoid using lawn mowers and leaf blowers over dusty areas
- Never use a leaf blower to blow debris out of truck beds or trailers or into the streets
- Prevent unwanted vehicle access to vacant lots and areas with landscaping, fencing, signs or beams
- Don’t drive on road shoulders except in emergencies
- Report violations to the Phoenix Police Department at 602-262-6151

For more information contact: 602-256-5669 or joe.gibbs@phoenix.gov
phoenix.gov/environment/air
Community Action Officers

Community Resource Sergeant
Amy Breitman
602-495-7559

East Area of Precinct (71 Area)
Benjamin Carro 602-320-0334
Benjamin.carro@phoenix.gov

Stephanie Laufer 602-495-6877
Stephnie.laufer@phoenix.gov *Spanish speaker

Central area of Precinct (72 Area)
Jon McLauchlan 602-882-9666
Jonathan.mclachlan@phoenix.gov

Aimee Knight-Fogel 602-708-1106
Aimee.knight-fogel@phoenix.gov

West Area of Precinct (73 Area)
Aaron Stevens 602-361-0043
Aaron.stevens@phoenix.gov

Ben Harris 602-495-6882
Benmin.harris@phoenix.gov

Community Programs Officer
Mary Roestenberg 602-495-6896
Mary.Roestenberg@phoenix.gov

Crime Free Multi-Housing Officer
Drew Loper (602) 495-0486
Drew.Loper@phoenix.gov

Abatement Detective
Chris Morris 602-534-5785
Christopher.morris@phoenix.gov

Burglary Reduction Program
Detective Patrick Schulte
602-534-6530

Detective Abraham Flores
602-534-1253

Mountain View Police Precinct
2075 East Maryland Avenue
Phoenix, AZ 85016
Front Desk: (602) 495-5007
Fax: (602) 495-3638
Email: SPPCustomerInput.PPD@phoenix.gov
Website: http://www.phoenix.gov/police/precincts/mountainview/index.html
Perhaps your pursuit of the bad guy leads to an injury. Perhaps, the bad guy, while being chased, sustains an injury that you caused or that was the result of your initiated pursuit. Let me ask you this, while your pursuing a suspicious person or suspect are you thinking about civil liability? Now, I know there are lawyers who will read this and maybe in a court of law you will be exonerated of civil liability based on your actions. That doesn’t mean someone cannot drag you through the legal process for whatever injury they believe you caused them by chasing or putting your hands on them. What is worse than injuring the bad guy is sustaining an injury yourself. I read about this just this week. A citizen sustained a hamstring injury after chasing people believed to be tee peeing their house, then banging on a window or door of the house. Your safety is paramount.

The most dangerous part of a chase for an officer or citizen is the element of the unknown. We just don’t know what is going to happen next. Will they produce a weapon? Will you get lost or turned around in the neighborhood not knowing exactly where you are? Perhaps you will sustain an injury or worse. Let me take you back a few months. Officer Bennett while on patrol observed a subject on a bicycle riding at night with no bike light. This is a violation of title 28 and rarely warrants a citation usually just an educational stop. Officer Bennett stopped this subject for the violation, after a brief conversation “the chase” was on. The suspect fled into the neighborhood and Officer Bennett in turn pursues the subject eventually catching up to him. While attempting to take the subject in custody, Officer Bennett was shot six times including being shot in the face. Officer Bennett was able to return fire and striking the subject who sustained non life threatening injuries. The suspect fled again and additional resources were used to apprehend him. Officer Bennett survived his injuries and will return to work in the near future. This could have gone the other way and we could have lost a good cop at the cost of a bike light or lack there of. The point being, you just never know who you’re confronting. Several years ago Officer Erfle was shot and killed at N. 24th Street and E. Pinchot Ave. after stopping a subject for jaywalking.

The above story is told as reality of the world we are living in today. The dangers involved with you confronting some members of society in the form of a “chase” is simply not advised by me or the Phoenix Police Department.

What should you do if you see suspicious activity or a crime in progress:

- Get to a safe location
- Call 911
- Know your location (address or landmark)
- Obtain a head to toe description of persons/vehicles
- Direction of travel
- Provide detailed information to our dispatchers
- Wait for police
- Report updated information
- Identify suspects involved
- Assist with prosecution if a crime was committed

After every “chase” that I have been involved in I look back at the dangers, I debrief with others to see how we can improve or become more tactically sound for the next one. We almost always walk away with minor injuries and an occasional serious one however, we get paid to engage bad guys and yes we get paid to “chase” them. Please leave the foot work to the police and be a good witness.

BE SAFE AND BE A GOOD WITNESS