

**GRAND JUNCTION CITY COUNCIL
ADDITIONAL WORKSHOP
MONDAY, JUNE 4, 2007 11:30 A.M.
ADMINISTRATION CONFERENCE ROOM
CITY HALL, 250 N. 5TH STREET
2ND FLOOR**

11:30 a.m. **POLICE DEPARTMENT STREET CRIMES UNIT UPDATE:** The Police Department will review the activities of the Street Crimes Unit since its activation in January of this year. [*Attach 1*](#)

ADJOURN

Attach 1
Street Crimes Unit

**GJPD STREET CRIMES UNIT PROGRESS REPORT TO
CITY COUNCIL**

Presented by

Sgt. Kevin Imbriaco

The GJPD Street Crimes Unit was activated on January 10, 2007. The team consists of four Officers and a Sergeant and is housed in the trailer on the North side of the Police Department, along with the Traffic Unit. The Mission of the Street Crimes Unit is to work with local Law Enforcement Agencies and residents of our Community to interdict low level drug dealers and drug users, with an emphasis on methamphetamine, and, crimes which are associated with the use of methamphetamine. The assignment is predominantly a uniform assignment, operating marked patrol cars.

The Street Crimes Unit does not routinely respond to calls for service but is more target-oriented, conducting surveillance on known or suspected locations where drug dealing is occurring. However, should the need arise; the Street Crimes Unit will and has assisted both the Patrol and Investigations Divisions with priority calls/cases. The Street Crimes Unit works very closely with the GJPD Uniform Patrol and Investigations Divisions, the Mesa County Sheriff's Office Street Crimes Unit, the Mesa County DA's Office, and the DEA Drug Task Force.

Members of the SCU bring different levels of experience to the Team. Officer Jason Sawyer is a State certified Drug Recognition Expert (DRE). I was most recently assigned to the DEA Western Colorado Drug Task Force for a year and a half and attended the DEA's Drug Unit Commander's Academy on Leadership. I was a drug investigator while working as a Police Officer in California and attended numerous training courses related to the investigation of illicit drug use and sales. I have shared that experience with the other members of the SCU.

The Street Crimes Unit relies heavily on accurate, timely information from a variety of different sources. The Street Crimes Unit receives information from criminal informants, Crime Stoppers, concerned citizens, anonymous letters to the Chief, the DEA Drug Task Force, as well as Officers within the Patrol Division. When information is received from a concerned Citizen, that person is contacted by the Street Crimes Unit no later than the following business day. After the investigation is completed, the SCU contacts the Citizen with the results of the investigation. This is in marked contrast to procedures in years past, where information would be received from concerned citizens and forwarded to the DEA Drug Task Force or Uniform Patrol and because of workload and time constraints, follow-up contact would not take place in a timely fashion.

Below is the year to date activity totals for the Street Crimes Unit (as of 5-30-07).

YEAR TO DATE TOTALS							
ACTIVITY	TOTAL	Approx. Weight Conversions					
Felony Cust. Arrests	80	Drug		oz	lb		
Misd. Arrests	80	Meth	2.10	0.13			
Fug./Warrant Arrests	50	Marijuana	281.36	17.56			
Summons/Citations	81	Cocaine	4.44	0.28			
Task Force Assists	40	Psi. Mushrooms	0.45	0.03			
Knock & Talks	51	# Ecstasy Pills			15		
Crime Stoppers Tips	19	# Prescription Pills			30		
Search Warrants	4	1oz = 28.3 g					
DRUGS (Est. Grams)		1lb = 16oz					
Methamphetamine	59.47	1lb = 453.5 g					
Marijuana	7962.35	Total Arrests:					
Cocaine	125.61	291					
Psilocybin Mushrooms	12.65						
# Ecstasy Pills	15	Jan.-Apr. Arrests	May-Aug. Arrests		Sept. - Dec. Arrests		
# Prescription Pills	30	Total	234	Total	57	Total	0
Money Seized	2954	Felony	67	Felony	13	Felony	0
Firearms Seized	12	Misd.	64	Misd.	16	Misd.	0
Other	95	Warrants	37	Warrants	13	Warrants	0
		Summons	66	Summons	15	Summons	0

Felony Arrests as of 5-30-07

Methamphetamine	44
Cocaine	13
Misc. (Non-Drug)	11
Controlled Prescription	5
Psilocybin Mushrooms	3
Ecstasy	2
Marijuana Cultivation	2
Total Felony Arrests:	80

ACTIVITY HIGHLIGHTS

Officer Sawyer provided four training sessions on Methamphetamine awareness to hotel employees (one session was in Spanish for housekeeping staff from area hotels).

The Street Crimes Unit has assisted the Patrol Division on the following:

- A stabbing at a party at 508 N. 23rd Street
- The recent Domestic Violence case in the 600 block of Arapahoe
- A Tech 9 concert at Mesa Theater
- Increased patrol of the Corral Bar
- Several large in-progress fights
- A special project targeting speeders and racers on North Avenue
- Nights where Patrol experienced high call volume

The Street Crimes Unit has assisted the Investigation Division in locating and arresting several wanted subjects on cases involving Forgery, Assaults, and Property Crimes.

The following are some cases the Street Crimes Unit initiated:

A search warrant based on information received from an informant resulted in the seizure of two ounces of cocaine and the arrest of a subject in the 1000 block of N. 5th Street.

A search warrant based on the prior arrests of several individuals by the Street Crimes Unit, as well as other information, resulted in the arrests of four subjects, and the seizure of methamphetamine, guns, and explosive devices at 960 Teller Avenue.

Surveillance of area hotels resulted in the arrest of two subjects for distribution of methamphetamine at America's Best Value Inn, 754 Horizon Drive, which led to a search warrant for a storage unit. Methamphetamine and dangerous weapons were recovered.

Surveillance of a known dealer led to a traffic stop which resulted in the arrest of one of the two subjects in the car for possession of suspected cocaine and the recovery of several items of suspected stolen property located in the car. By the following day, the recovered property was confirmed to be stolen and the 2nd subject was stopped in the same vehicle and arrested with over 50 additional items of stolen property, clearing at least three different cases.

A traffic stop resulted in the arrest of the two occupants in possession of two ounces of cocaine. One of the subjects had a loaded handgun in his waistband at the time of his arrest.

A "knock and talk" conducted at 1320 Orchard Avenue based on information received from a concerned citizen, resulted in the discovery of a sophisticated hydroponic marijuana grow, the seizure of 16 marijuana plants, growing equipment, and the charging of two subjects.

Assisted Colorado Springs PD by locating two subjects at a residence in the 300 block of Pitkin who were wanted for a brutal attempted murder and auto theft.

On several occasions, the Street Crimes Unit has provided assistance to the DEA Drug Task Force on their cases and, the DEA Drug Task Force has provided assistance to the Street Crimes Unit on our investigations.

Because of the high number of traffic stops conducted by the Street Crimes Unit, we have made numerous arrests for DUI, driving with a suspended / revoked license, no proof of insurance, and warrants.

As a side note, the SCU has received several commendations and has received only one complaint from a subject over the towing of their vehicle due to having two different VIN numbers attached to it.

Below is a comparison of crimes from January 1 thru May 29, 2006 compared to the same time period in 2007. The Street Crimes Unit is one of many factors that may have contributed to the drop in crime during this time period, as well as the increase in Controlled Substance violations.

