

# Twelfth Judicial District Major Crimes Unit

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES IN OTERO AND LINCOLN COUNTIES JOIN TOGETHER TO COMBAT VIOLENT CRIME

Otero County Sheriff David Black, Ruidoso Police Chief Darren Hooker, Acting Alamogordo Police Chief Roger Schoolcraft, Lincoln County Sheriff Robert Sheppard, and Twelfth Judicial District Attorney John P. Sugg announced today that each of their respective agencies have come together to form the Twelfth Judicial District Major Crimes Unit (“MCU”).

The goal of the MCU is to maximize the use of scarce law enforcement resources to form a team of highly trained and highly skilled detectives to investigate major violent felony crimes occurring in Otero and Lincoln Counties. The MCU will focus primarily on suspicious child death and suspected homicide cases, but will also be utilized to investigate other violent crimes.

Each of the five agencies will have between 1 to 3 certified law enforcement officers assigned to the MCU. By pooling resources, MCU detectives will receive specialized trainings that are otherwise unavailable due to each individual agency’s budgetary constraints.

“We have extremely talented and dedicated law enforcement officers throughout the Twelfth Judicial District,” District Attorney John P. Sugg said. “By selecting the best of the best detectives from across the district to form the MCU we will be able to have a premiere investigative team capable of handling the most complex criminal investigations.”

Each agency head will submit a list of nominees along with each nominee’s resume for the MCU Board of Directors’ consideration. The Board will meet in February to appoint members to the MCU. A commander of the MCU will also be selected. District Attorney John P. Sugg will serve as the Chairman of the Board of Directors with each agency head serving as a Board Member.

