

TPD launches podcasts to keep public informed

By NICOLE MARSHALL World Staff Writer
10/20/2006

The radio-style show can be heard on a computer or personal digital music player.

To keep the public informed about police and public safety issues, the Tulsa Police Department has begun posting podcasts on the department's Web site. The audio podcast is available for playback on personal computers and portable digital music players. The radio-style show will be updated monthly and allows officers a venue to discuss a number of topics.

The first podcast, which lasts less than 5 1/2 minutes, is about recruiting, but officers say future podcasts will address personal safety and other police issues. The Tulsa Police Department is one of the first departments in the United States to use a podcast as a communication medium.

"It is our goal to use various communication methods in an effort to get our message to the public," Police Capt. Travis Yates said. "By informing the public on issues such as crime prevention and department programs, we will only improve our efficiency in serving the community."

To access the podcasts, go online to www.tulsapolice.org. Click on the police patch logo with the words "TPD Wire." To listen to the podcast on a computer, click on the police badge logo to access an mp3 file. Listeners can subscribe to the TPD podcast by copying and pasting the Web address provided in a text box into their podcasting software, Cpl. Bryan Bryden said. Subscribers can set their podcasting software for frequent updates and will automatically re-ceive the latest Police Department podcast.