



## 'Guardian Angels' To Patrol El Paso Streets

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**EL PASO, Texas** -- El Paso is considered the second safest city in the country, but that's not stopping a group called the Guardian Angels from coming together once again in the Sun City to try and protect citizens.

Sunday was graduation day for six young men, the first graduating class of the Guardian Angels in El Paso since the early 90s.

"I thought, 'Whoa, that is pretty cool, to be a part of...history here in El Paso, to do something good for the community,'" said Arnaldo Cardona, one of the freshly minted Guardian Angels. The Guardian Angels were founded by New Yorker Curtis Sliwa in the late 70s, when New York City was known for violent crime.

"It is a citizen patrol, unarmed, but makes citizen's arrests when necessary and helps law enforcement in what is becoming an increasingly more difficult position here in El Paso," Sliwa told KFOX.

Sliwa said now is the perfect time to restart the Guardian Angels in El Paso.

"With all of the violence that has taken place in Juarez and drifting over to El Paso, the fear of the people is that that problem is going to come here," he said.

For the last three months the young adults have been training in basic self-defense, CPR and first aid, along with learning the laws of when they can make a citizen's arrest.

"It's intense, you gotta learn everything, you know, you just got to keep to it, keep on going and don't quit," said Cardona.

Cardona said it's changed his life, and could change the lives of others.

"It's a great feeling to know that I'm doing something good, and staying out of drugs, keeping out of gangs, and maybe keeping other kids out of gangs and drugs," he said.

The Guardian Angels are in 14 countries and 140 cities. The angels in El Paso are expected to patrol mostly in border areas including downtown.

