

WHAT'S *New*

IN THE METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

A weekly update for residents, visitors, and workers in the District of Columbia



Friday, April 27, 2012

TWENTY-THREE NEW OFFICERS HITTING THE STREETS OF DC

Patrols in DC neighborhoods are being boosted by the addition of 23 officers who were sworn in during a graduation ceremony on Friday, April 27, 2012 at the MPD's Maurice T. Turner, Jr. Metropolitan Police Academy in Southwest. During the ceremony, training awards were presented to Officer Blaine Scott (Academic), Officer Michael Molinari (Firearms), Officer DaRel Carney (Vehicle Skills), and Officers Brittany Day and Hakeem Ayodji (Physical Skills). The new officers all completed approximately 24 weeks of training at the police academy, which includes a full program of physical, classroom, and firearms training to prepare them for the challenges of being a police officer. The subjects covered include laws of arrest, search and seizure, criminal law, traffic regulations, human relations, community policing, and ethics. In addition, recruit officers receive skills training in firearms, operation of emergency police vehicles, self-defense, advanced first aid, and much more.

The MPD is focused on building a crime-fighting partnership with the community, and developing our own promise and potential as a department. Police work requires a certain type of individual — one who has strong interpersonal skills and the motivation to work with our partners to help build strong, safe and healthy communities throughout the District of Columbia.

NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH GEARED TOWARD RAISING AWARENESS OF CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN

Child abuse and neglect awareness activities are being promoted across the country during the month of April. Detectives in the Youth Investigations Division (YID) have received intensive training in recognizing and investigating child abuse.

Not all injuries to a child are considered "child abuse," which occurs when a parent, guardian, or custodian intentionally injures a child. Physical discipline on a child — provided that discipline is reasonable in manner and moderate in degree — is permissible.

Child neglect occurs when a child has been abandoned or abused by his/her parent, guardian, or custodian. A child is entitled to a certain level of parental care or control, subsistence, education as required by law, or other care or control necessary for his/her physical, mental, or emotional health. A child regularly exposed to illegal drug-related activity in the home or who is born addicted or dependent on a controlled substance is also a victim of neglect.

All sworn members of the MPD are required to report child abuse and neglect. In addition to medical and school personnel, law enforcement officers are required to notify the YID or the Child and Family Services Agency (CFSA) if they have reasonable cause to suspect that a child has been or is in immediate danger of being a mentally or physically abused or neglected child.

The best way to prevent child abuse and neglect is to get involved by promoting healthy families. Learn about protective factors that can reduce the risk of child abuse and neglect, find information on parenting resources and different ways to support families, and learn how service providers can partner with parents to improve outcomes for children, youth, and families.

» For more information on becoming a police officer in the MPD visit the police recruiting website at: <http://dcpolicejobs.dc.gov>

» The MPD is looking for volunteers to join the MPD's Reserve Corps, which provides qualified civic-minded individuals with the opportunity to assist the MPD in carrying out its policing responsibilities. Select the "Volunteer" tab at: <http://dcpolicejobs.dc.gov>

» If you have concerns about a youth who may be abused or neglected, contact the Youth Investigations Division on: (202) 576-6768

» The DC Child and Family Services Agency (CFSA) protects children from abuse and neglect in the District of Columbia. For more information on CFSA, go to: <http://cfsa.dc.gov/>

» Get more information on National Child Abuse Prevention Month at: <http://www.childwelfare.gov/preventing/preventionmonth/history.cfm>

» The websites listed below have excellent information that can be downloaded and printed for dissemination to anyone in need of help.

o <http://www.preventchildabuse.org/>

o <http://www.childwelfare.gov/preventing/preventionmonth/>

DO YOUR PART TO PREVENT THEFTS FROM AUTO AND AUTO THEFTS AT GAS STATIONS

The MPD would like to raise the public's awareness about a common crime tactic perpetrated by thieves. These thieves target unsuspecting vehicle owners when they are pumping gas or paying the tab in the station. Purses and other valuables, which are often visible or easily accessible from passenger side of a vehicle, are the main targets. To simplify things for the thief, the vehicle is often left unlocked. The thefts normally take place when the victim is most distracted – when he or she is pumping gas or going into the station to pay for a purchase. A suspect vehicle will drive up next to the victim's auto, quickly open the unlocked door, and grab any easily-accessible items. Then they will just as quickly drive off. It happens in a matter of seconds.

These sorts of thefts can be prevented when the appropriate precautions are taken. Below are some helpful tips on how to avoid becoming a victim:

- » Pick stations that are well-lit and have video-surveillance cameras at the pump.
- » Make a list of favorite gas stations along your regular travel routes. Stations near police departments and state police barracks are good choices.
- » Always remove your keys and lock the car doors while you are pumping gas. If you sense danger and you have a panic button on your car keys, keep your hands on the panic button until help arrives.
- » Keep valuables out of sight in your vehicle and lock the doors, even if you are going inside for just a moment.
- » It might be worthwhile to wait for the pump nearest to the attendant or building.
- » Pay attention to your surroundings.
- » Don't be distracted by your cell phone.

» Learn more about how you can reduce the risk of having property in your car – or your vehicle – stolen, by watching the video and downloading additional information at:
<http://mpdc.dc.gov/gasstationsafety>



DATA BOX

Homicides	as of 4/27/12
2012: 23	
2011: 33	
% Change: -30.3%	
Closure Rate: 60.8% (14 closures)	
Adult Arrests	(week end. 4/21/12)
Total Arrests: 818	
Weapons: 16	
Robbery: 15	
Unauthorized Use of Vehicle: 14	
Prostitution/Sex Offenses: 24	
Narcotics: 145	
Juvenile Activity	(week end. 4/21/12)
Total Arrests: 59	
Weapons: 0	
Robbery: 3	
Unauthorized Use of Vehicle: 3	
Narcotics: 4	
Firearm Recoveries	as of 4/23/12
April: 108	
2012 Total: 617	
Traffic Fatalities	as of 4/27/12
2012: 6	
2011: 13	
% Change: -53.9%	

NEWS & NOTES

Also Noteworthy

33rd Annual Police Memorial Service Set for Monday, May 7.

Please join MPD, FOP DC Lodge #1, and the DC Chapter of Concerns of Police Survivors to help honor those who have made the ultimate sacrifice on Monday, May 7 at 11 am at the Washington Area Police Memorial Fountain, in front of MPD

Police Headquarters.

Report Crimes Against Children through the CyberTipline. The CyberTipline is a Congressionally-mandated means for reporting crimes against children. Report crimes 24-hours a day, 7 days a week by calling **1-800-843-5678** or reporting crimes online at <http://www.cybertipline.com>.

Join the MPD Reserve Corps. The MPD Reserve Corps, a volunteer policing

program is seeking new members. Applications are now being accepted at <http://dcpolicejobs.dc.gov>.

Preventing terrorism is everybody's business. If you SEE something, SAY something. Call the MPD at **(202) 727-9099** to report suspicious activity that has already occurred. Call 911 to report in-progress threats or emergencies. Learn how you can help fight terrorism at <http://mpdc.dc.gov/operationTIPP>.

Information, ideas, or comments about this service?

Send an e-mail to **KAYLIN CASTELLI**, Manager of Internet Communications, at kaylin.castelli@dc.gov

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