

WHAT'S *New*

IN THE METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

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



Friday, February 22, 2013

REPORT CRIMES ONLINE USING THE METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT'S NEW CITIZEN ONLINE REPORTING TOOL

The Metropolitan Police Department recently launched its Citizen Online Reporting Tool. This application gives users the ability to report certain types of incidents that don't require a police officer to witness or gather the information. Through the Citizen Online Reporting Tool, you can now report the following types of incidents:

- Lost property
- Lost vehicle tags
- Stolen vehicle tags
- Theft/theft from auto
- Destruction of property
- Damage to property

While not every crime is avoidable, there are certain precautions you can take to reduce your risk of becoming a victim of certain property crimes. One of the most common types of theft is theft of valuables from your automobile. Theft from auto is strictly a crime of opportunity that can be prevented if you take away the opportunity. Thieves generally won't waste their time breaking into autos that don't have valuables in plain sight, so follow these tips to reduce your risk!

Keep Your Valuables Out of Sight. The best way to prevent theft from your auto is to always keep valuables out of sight. Never leave cell phones, briefcases, suitcases, or electronic devices (cell phones, iPods, laptop computers, etc.) in your car in plain view. Take these items with you, or secure them—all the time, every time.

Secure Your GPS Device. While many GPS devices are mounted in the dashboard of the vehicle, the MPD encourages anyone who uses a portable GPS device to take it with you, along with any other items of value, when you park the car.

Use Your Trunk. If your car has a trunk, use it. Put valuables in there or in a locked glove compartment. Hiding items under seats is better than leaving them in plain view, but securing them inside the glove compartment or trunk is a far better deterrent.

Don't Tempt Thieves with New Purchases

Hide Your Packages. Any time you're shopping, place packages in the trunk, not on the passenger seats or floors.

Lock It Up. Keep your car doors and windows locked—all the time!

METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT WASHINGTON, DC

For non-emergency reports only

Online Reporting Tool

Select Incident Type

There are several different incident types that can be entered using the internet. Please select one from the list below and continue. If the incident you are reporting has a known suspect, you should instead call us.

Select	Incident Type	Definition	Examples
<input type="radio"/>	Damage to Property	Incident where physical damage is caused to your property, but there is not enough information or circumstances do not warrant it being reported as a crime.	(1) You hit a deer while driving, and your driver's side mirror is broken. (2) You park your vehicle in a public garage. When you return a couple days later, there is a large dent in the left back bumper of your vehicle. It is unknown what caused the damage.
<input type="radio"/>	Destruction of Property	Incident when someone willfully causes, or attempts to cause, physical destruction of your property.	Someone willfully breaks a window in your garage while you are sleeping in the adjoining house. A witness reports that he saw two juveniles running from the side of the garage earlier that morning.
<input type="radio"/>	Lost Property	Personal or commercial property that is lost, missing or misplaced.	You leave your purse somewhere in a convenience store while shopping but do not realize it for several hours.
<input type="radio"/>	Lost Tags	Incident where tags (license plates) are lost or missing from a vehicle not due to theft.	The tags fall off your motorcycle during a traffic crash, or if your car's front license plate has fallen off.
<input type="radio"/>	Stolen Tags	The wrongful taking or use of tags (license plates) from your vehicle without your permission. Includes attempts to steal your tags also.	You return to your vehicle after work and find your license plates stolen.
<input type="radio"/>	Theft	The wrongful taking of another's property without force or the threat of force. Excludes thefts of and from motor vehicles (e.g., cars, motorcycles, segways, etc.). Includes attempts to commit theft also.	A stranger picks up your iPhone from the counter of a restaurant when you walked away for a couple minutes to speak to a friend. The stranger leaves the store before you notice your phone is gone.
<input type="radio"/>	Theft from Auto	Theft of another's property from his/her motor vehicle. Includes attempts to steal property from your vehicle also.	You leave your car unattended during the summer to run into the dry cleaner. You leave the driver's window rolled down. When you return, you find the backpack you left on the front seat missing.

Start Report

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» To file a police report online, or to learn more about this application, go to:
<http://mpdc.dc.gov/onlinepolice-report>

» The MPD offers a variety of safety tips to help reduce your risk of becoming a victim. Download the brochures or read them online at:
<http://mpdc.dc.gov/safety>

PROVIDE 911 WITH A SAFETY PROFILE THROUGH SMART911

Smart911, a initiative by the Office of Unified Communications (OUC) improves public safety by providing immediate crucial information to emergency responders. Smart911 provides emergency responders with much more complete information about 911 callers so they can respond to the right location, with the right personnel and the right equipment. Smart911 is a public/private partnership enabling the creation of a critical caller database that integrates with the District's 911 system.

Coupled with the DC 311 smart-phone app, the availability of Smart911 adds to OUC Director Jennifer Greene's goal of making OUC the nation's most efficient and responsive emergency communications agency. With Smart911, residents are able to create a Safety Profile at www.smart911.com that is automatically displayed to 9-1-1 during emergency calls. The profile can include home and work addresses associated with mobile phone numbers, specific medical conditions and disabilities, all family members, vehicle information and even information about pets.

Residents are encouraged to create their Safety Profile with Smart911 today to have their information immediately available to 911. Smart911 data is private and secure, is only used for emergency responses, and is only made available to the 911 system in the event of an emergency call.

- » Watch the new YouTube video about the benefits of creating a safety profile through Smart911: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JDZFTx-rz9Y&feature=youtu.be>
- » Create your safety profile with Smart911 online at: <https://www.smart911.com/>
- » Smart911 is supported by the DC Office of Unified Communications (OUC), which oversees the 9-1-1 call center in the District of Columbia. Learn more about OUC at: <http://ouc.dc.gov/>
- » Need to report a non-emergency issue in your neighborhood? Try the DC311 Smartphone app. Get more information at: <http://ouc.dc.gov/page/dc-311-smartphone-app>

DPW LOOKING TO REPLACE GRAFFITI WITH FREE MURALS

Graffiti represents different things to different people. To some it is an edgy, urban art form. For others it's a way to document the experiences and existence of those who make up the community. But for many home and business owners in the District, it's a violation of private property and a contributing factor to urban blight.

DC building owners are invited to respond to a call to donate mural space. MuralsDC, a collaboration between the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities and the Department of Public Works (DPW), will soon launch the 2013 season of MuralsDC. The program began in 2007 to combat the growing trend of illegal graffiti and reduce urban blight. DPW is looking for building owners of chronically tagged walls, or who are located in areas where graffiti is likely, who would like to donate wall space for this free program. MuralsDC has been extremely effective in ending the cycle of tagging.

- » Read the complete news release from DPW at: <http://dpw.dc.gov>
- » Learn more about the MuralsDC program and download an application at: <http://dpw.dc.gov/DC/DPW/Services+on+Your+Block/Litter+and+Graffiti+Removal/MuralsDC>
- » If graffiti tarnishes your property, DPW can help remove it. Complete a form online or submit a request through 3-1-1:
 - o **Graffiti Removal**
<http://dpw.dc.gov/DC/DPW/Services+on+Your+Block/Litter+and+Graffiti+Removal/Graffiti+Removal>
 - o **3-1-1 Online**
<http://311.dc.gov/>

NEWS & NOTES

Also Noteworthy

MPD Awards Ceremony Set for 2/28.

The MPD will celebrate some of its most outstanding achievements at the Annual Awards Ceremony on Thursday, February 28, 2013 from 7pm-9pm at Gallaudet University's Elstad Auditorium. Members,

community leaders, and partner agencies will be recognized in 30 different categories. Please plan to attend this special recognition ceremony and help thank these individuals for the service. Gallaudet University is located at 800 Florida Avenue, NE.

Tell Us How We're Doing. MPD is now part of Grade DC. We invite you to share your thoughts on our service – positive or negative

– through MPD's email groups, our social media, or by visiting the Grade DC website. Get more information at <http://grade.dc.gov>.

Report Crimes Against Children through the CyberTipline. The 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>.

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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