

# WHAT'S *New*

IN THE METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

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



*Friday, May 9, 2014*

## NATIONAL POLICE WEEK TO BRING THOUSANDS TO DC TO HONOR OFFICERS KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY

In 1962, President John F. Kennedy signed a proclamation designating May 15 as Peace Officers Memorial Day and the week in which that date falls as "National Police Week." Every year since, tens of thousands of law enforcement officers from around the world converge on DC each May to participate in a variety of events to honor those who have made the ultimate sacrifice and were killed in the line of duty. The 26th Annual Candlelight Vigil will be held at the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial on Tuesday, May 13, 2014. Sponsored by the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund (NLEOMF), at the Memorial grounds, located at Judiciary Square, on the 400 block of E Street, NW, Washington, DC. Other Police Week events include bicycle and motorcycle rides, wreath-laying ceremonies, the 20th annual Blue Mass (May 6 at St. Patrick's Catholic Church, 10th and G Streets, NW), seminars by Concerns of Police Survivors, a Pipeband March and Service, and the Police Unity Bicycle Tour.

Earlier today, the Fraternal Order of Police Auxiliary sponsored the 35th Annual Memorial Service for law enforcement officers from the region killed in the line of duty. The ceremony took place at the memorial fountain outside MPD Headquarters at 300 Indiana Avenue, NW. The service honored four members of the community, as well as one canine, who made the ultimate sacrifice in 2013.



- » National Police Week info and a schedule of events are at:  
<http://www.policeweek.org>
- » To learn more about the Blue Mass and to see photos from past years, see:  
<http://www.saintpatrickdc.org/bluemass.shtml>
- » MPD maintains an online memorial to officers killed in the line of duty. Submit remembrances at:  
<http://mpdc.dc.gov/heroes>



## NATIONAL POLICE WEEK 5K RACE SET FOR SATURDAY, MAY 10

The Metropolitan Police Department and the Department of Transportation would like to inform the public of street closures in conjunction with the National Police Week 5K Race scheduled for Saturday, May 10, 2014. To facilitate this event, vehicular traffic restrictions must be imposed on numerous streets downtown between the hours of 5 am and 11 am on the day of the race. To avoid delays, motorists should avoid the route of the race and streets that intersect.

The participants will be assembling on 3rd Street, NW and F Street, NW for the start of the race. The runners will head south on 3rd Street, to C Street, SW, past the Capitol, and back to the finish at 4th and F Streets, NW. All street closures and listed times are subject to change based upon prevailing or unexpected conditions.

Motorists could encounter possible delays if operating in the vicinity of this event and may wish to consider alternative routes. The Metropolitan Police Department and the D.C. Department of Transportation also wishes to remind motorists in the vicinity of this event to proceed with caution as increased pedestrian traffic can be anticipated.

- » For more information, including a course map, go to:  
<http://www.nationalpoliceweek5k.com/>

## SMARTPHONE USERS ENCOURAGED TO TAKE STEPS TO PREVENT THEFT AND BRICK STOLEN DEVICES

In Washington, DC, New York and other large American cities, roughly 40% of all robberies now involve smart phones—endangering the physical safety of victims, as well as the security of the personal information on the stolen devices. In addition to the loss and injury experienced during the initial crime, there is an added risk of identity theft if the stolen smartphone isn't password protected to prevent a thief from getting access to private information on the device. Smartphone owners are encouraged to do what they can to reduce their risk of becoming a victim of a robbery. The MPD offers the following tips:

- **Protect Your Information.** Make sure your phone is password protected before you walk out the door. That way, if your device is lost or stolen, no one can run up your phone bill or access your online accounts.
- **Don't Walk and Text.** Texting while walking is dangerous, especially in crosswalks and other areas with heavy pedestrian and vehicular traffic. Not only that, when you're texting, you're not paying attention to your surroundings, which make you an easy target for criminals.
- **Pocket the Phone.** Consider putting your smartphone away for a bit. If you are wearing headphones, don't turn up the volume so high that you cannot hear outside noises. Don't forget that ubiquitous white cord may indicate to would-be thieves that you're carrying a certain brand of smart phone.
- **Be Alert.** Always be aware of your surroundings. Wherever you are—on the street, in an office building or shopping mall, driving, waiting for a bus or subway—stay alert and tuned in to your surroundings.

If someone tries to rob you, don't resist. Give up your property—don't give up your life. Report the crime to the police. Try to describe the attacker accurately. Your actions can help prevent others from becoming victims.

If your smart phone is lost or stolen, you may now contact the carrier and ask to have that device remotely disabled. If a smart phone is rendered inactive in such a manner, it's often considered to be as useful as a "brick." These "bricked" phones are of little use to thieves because they can't be reactivated after being sold on the black market. The MPD is encouraging victims of smart phone thefts to call their carriers and to "brick it" in an effort to deter smart phone theft.

By bricking your phone, you will permanently disable your device and help us eliminate the black market for stolen smart phones. We can reduce robberies by eliminating the reason criminals steal smart phones in the first place!

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- » The MPD offers a variety of safety tips, including a complete brochure on robbery prevention. Read the tips online or download brochures at: <http://mpdc.dc.gov/safety>
- » Get more information on "bricking" your phone at: <http://brickit.dc.gov>
- » The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) offers information on how to safeguard yourself against wireless device theft at: <http://www.fcc.gov/guides/stolen-and-lost-wireless-devices>
- » If your smart phone is lost or stolen, contact your carrier. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has a contact list of service providers at: <http://www.fcc.gov/stolen-phones-contact-numbers>

### NEWS & NOTES

#### Also Noteworthy

**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](mailto:kaylin.castelli@dc.gov)

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