

WHAT'S *New*

IN THE METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

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



Friday, July 11, 2014

FIFTY-THREE NEW OFFICERS ARE HITTING THE STREETS OF DC

Patrols in DC neighborhoods are being boosted by the addition of 53 officers who were sworn in during a graduation ceremony on Friday, July 11, 2014, at Woodrow Wilson Senior High School in Northwest DC.

Two recruit classes – Class 2013-8 and Class 2013-9 – both completed their training. Awards presented during the ceremony recognized the following new members' accomplishments:



- » 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. Details on the Reserve Corps and other volunteer programs are available at: <http://mpdc.dc.gov/page/volunteer-opportunities-mpdc>

	Recruit Class 2013-8	Recruit Class 2013-9
Academic Training Award	Officer James Keenan	Officer Jabdiel Fuentes
Firearms Training Award	Officer Aaron Follman	Officer Andre Parisella
Vehicle Skills Awards	Officer James Keenan	Officer Rodrigo O'Connor
Physical Skills Awards	Officer Chantel Carter Officer Antoine Brathwaite	Officer Melia Dickinson Officer Jocat Yanez

The new officers all completed approximately 28 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 Metropolitan Police Department (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.

BURGLARY PREVENTION IS EVERYBODY'S BUSINESS

Have you ever been locked out of your home? Were you able to get in anyway? Now think about it...if you could break into your own home, it's just as easy for someone else to break in, too. One out of 10 homes will be burglarized this year, and many intruders will spend no more than 60 seconds trying to break into a home. The best prediction of a future burglary is a past burglary. Therefore, it is important to take preventative measures now. Strong locks—and good neighbors who look out for one another—can be effective deterrents to burglars. Here are a few tips that can help you keep you—and your property—safe and secure.

Check—and use—your door and window locks. Make sure every external door has a strong, well-installed dead bolt lock. Sliding glass doors offer easy access if they are not properly secured. You can secure them by putting a broomstick or dowel in the inside track to jam the door or by installing commercially available locks. To prevent the door being lifted off of the track, drill a hole through the sliding door frame and the fixed frame. Then insert a pin in the hole. Never hide keys around the outside of your home. Instead, give an extra key to a neighbor you trust. When you move into a new house or apartment, re-key the locks.

Another good idea is to take a look at your home from the outside. Keep in mind the following tips to help make your home as safe as it can be:

- **Burglars hate bright lights.** Install outside lights and keep them on at night. Motion-detector lights can be particularly effective.
- **Keep your yard clean.** Prune shrubbery so it doesn't hide windows or doors. Cut back tree limbs that a burglar could use to climb to an upper-level window.
- **If you travel,** create the illusion that you are at home by getting timers that will turn lights (and perhaps a television or radio) on and off in different parts of your home throughout the day and evening hours. Lights burning 24 hours a day signal an empty house.
- **Leave shades, blinds, and curtains in normal positions.** And make sure you don't let your mail and/or newspapers pile up. Call the post office and newspaper to stop delivery or have a neighbor pick them up.
- **Make a list of your valuables,** such as TVs, stereos, computers, and jewelry. Take pictures of the items, list their serial numbers and description. This will help police if your home is burglarized.

While most burglars prefer to strike when no one is home, intruders can commit other crimes such as rape, robbery, and assault if they are surprised by someone entering the home, or if they pick a home that is occupied. If something looks questionable – a slit screen, a broken window or an open door – don't go in. Call the police from a neighbor's house, a cell phone, or a public phone. At night, if you think you hear someone breaking in, leave safely if you can, then call the police. If you can't leave, lock yourself in a room with a phone and call the police. If an intruder is in your room, pretend you are asleep.

» Get additional information on burglary prevention online at:

<http://mpdc.dc.gov/burglary>

» The MPD offers a large selection of crime prevention and safety tips. Learn more at:

<http://mpdc.dc.gov/safety>

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

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