

WHAT'S *New*

IN THE METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

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



Friday, September 26, 2014

MAYOR GRAY AND CHIEF LANIER ANNOUNCE METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT'S BODY-WORN CAMERA PILOT PROGRAM

On Wednesday, September 24, 2014, Mayor Vincent C. Gray and Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) Chief Cathy L. Lanier announced details of the deployment of MPD's new body-worn cameras. Use of the cameras in a pilot program is intended to further the mission of the department and enhance service to the community by accurately documenting events, actions, conditions,



and statements made during citizen encounters, traffic stops, arrests, and other incidents. In addition, the use of the cameras will help ensure the safety of both MPD members and the public.

"Our Metropolitan Police Department has been a leader in using technology to aid policing and public safety, and I want to commend Chief Lanier and the department for implementing this program, which has been in the works for more a year," Mayor Gray said. "Especially since the unfortunate incidents in Ferguson, Mo., have brought the issue of body cameras to national attention, I'm proud that MPD will continue to show leadership in this area."

The pilot is slated to start October 1, 2014, and is expected to last six months. MPD has purchased five camera models from three different vendors. The pilot will involve approximately 165 MPD members, including volunteers from all the seven police districts, the Special Operations Division, and the School Safety Division. Each member volunteering for the pilot will be assigned each of the five camera models and provide written feedback after each experience. Cameras will also be deployed to MPD's Tactical Village, where members will have an opportunity to use the cameras while participating in practical, scenario-based training.

"We are looking at the best practices for implementing these devices," said Chief Lanier. "We are in an age where this type of technology is becoming more common, and we want to capitalize on that. The presence of cameras will benefit the community and MPD members by improving police services, increasing accountability and enhancing public safety."

For the pilot program, \$1 million was budgeted in the spring to purchase cameras and related infrastructure. MPD is currently finalizing the department's policy for the program. In creating the program, the department has collaborated with the Office of Police Complaints, the U.S. Attorney's Office, Office of the Attorney General, the Fraternal Order of Police – Labor Committee, the Police Executive Research Forum, the Major City Chiefs of Police Association, the International Association of Chiefs of Police as well as law-enforcement agencies across the country that have already deployed body cameras.

» Read the complete news release at:
<http://mpdc.dc.gov>

MPD TO PARTICIPATE IN NATIONAL PRESCRIPTION DRUG TAKE BACK INITIATIVE TOMORROW

The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) has scheduled another National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day which will take place on Saturday, September 27, 2014, from 10 am to 2 pm. The Metropolitan Police Department is providing the public with a safe, convenient, and responsible means of disposing of prescription drugs, to reduce the potential abuse of medications. We urge the community to take advantage of this opportunity to discard unwanted, unused, and expired prescription drugs from medicine cabinets, bedside tables, and kitchen drawers.

Last October, Americans turned in 324 tons (over 647,000 pounds) of prescription drugs at over 4,114 sites operated by the DEA and its thousands of state and local law enforcement partners. When those results are combined with what was collected in its seven previous Take Back events, DEA and its partners have taken in over 3.4 million pounds—more than 1,700 tons—of pills.



» Learn More about the Prescription Drug Take Back, and find a location where you can bring your drugs at:
http://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drug_disposal/takeback/

WEEKEND STREET CLOSURES FOR BARRACKS ROW FALL FESTIVAL AND THE 2014 TURKISH FESTIVAL

On Saturday, September 27, 2014, the Barracks Row Fall Festival will take place on 8th Street SE. In conjunction with this event, the following streets will be closed from 6 am until approximately 6 pm:

- 8th Street SE will be closed from E Street to I Street SE
- G Street SE will be closed from 7th Street to 9th Street SE

On Sunday, September 28, 2014, the 2014 Turkish Festival will take place in the District of Columbia. In conjunction with this event, the following streets will be closed from 4 am until approximately 11 pm:

- Pennsylvania Ave NW between 14th Street NW and 12th Street NW
- 13th Street NW between Pennsylvania Ave NW and E Street 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 wish to remind motorists in the vicinity of this event to proceed with caution as increased pedestrian traffic can be anticipated.

| Drop Off Location | Address |
|--------------------------|--|
| First District | 101 M St., SW Washington, DC 20024 |
| 1D Substation | 500 E St., SE Washington, DC 20003 |
| Second District | 3320 Idaho Ave., NW Washington, DC 20016 |
| Third District | 1620 V St., NW Washington, DC 20009 |
| Fourth District | 6001 Georgia Ave., NW Washington, DC 20011 |
| 4D Substation | 750 Park Rd., NW Washington, DC 20010 |
| Fifth District | 1805 Bladensburg Rd., NE Washington, DC 20002 |
| Sixth District | 100 42nd St., NE Washington, DC 20019 |
| Seventh District | 2455 Alabama Ave., SE Washington, DC 20020 |
| Wisconsin Baptist Church | 3920 Alton Place, NW |

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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