

WHAT'S *New*

IN THE METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

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



Friday, December 5, 2014

REDUCE THE RISK OF BURGLARY BY SECURING THE EXTERIOR OF YOUR HOME

Over the past week, there have been few burglaries within the Six District where the suspect pushes in a window air conditioner to enter a house. Once inside of the residence the suspect normally steals electronics and other valuables before leaving. To prevent these types of burglaries from occurring, residents are encouraged to remove their window air conditioner units during the winter months or properly secure the air conditioner so it can't be removed from outside the house.

In some of the burglaries the suspect used a trash can remove stolen property transport it to other locations. If you see someone you don't recognize pushing a trash can through an alley, please call 911, so an officer can respond and investigate the matter.

As the holiday season approaches many residents will be purchasing or receiving electronics as gifts. These are the types of items most commonly stolen during burglaries. It is recommended that you record the brand, model, and serial number of all electronic items and other valuables and store them in a safe location. If your house is burglarized, this information can be very helpful in recovering stolen property and arresting the persons responsible for the burglaries.

» Becoming a victim of a theft or burglary can really put a damper on your holiday festivities. The MPD offers tips that are helpful to review during in the holiday season. Learn more at:

<http://mpdc.dc.gov/node/199972>

» If anyone has any information about any of the burglaries in the Sixth District – or any crimes in DC – they are encouraged to contact MPD at (202) 727-9099 or send an anonymous TEXT TIP to 50411.

TRAFFIC ADVISORY FOR MEMORIAL CELEBRATION FOR MAYOR MARION BARRY JR. ON 12/6

On Saturday, December 6, 2014, the family of Mayor Marion Barry Jr. will have a Celebration of Life Remembrance Ceremony to honor Mayor Marion Barry Jr. There will be full and temporary street and route closures for this celebration taking place in the District of Columbia.

On Saturday, December 6, 2014, from 5 AM to 5 PM, street closures will occur at the Washington Convention Center for Mayor Barry's Memorial Ceremony. Street closures will be on L Street, between 7th and 9th Street, NW.

Immediately after the memorial service, there will be intermitted street closures from 3 PM until 5 PM along the processional route from Convention Center to the Congressional Cemetery, located at 1801 E Street, SE.

The Metropolitan Police Department of the District of Columbia will put the above intermitted and full street closures affecting vehicular traffic into place December 6, 2014, as needed. The intermitted street closures will be lifted when the event has concluded and does not pose a safety hazard to the public.

TAKE STEPS TO KEEP YOUR VALUABLES SAFE WHEN PARKING IN POPULAR NIGHTSPOTS, SHOPPING AREAS

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.

Thefts from autos can be a recurring problem in the District because of the prevalence of fashionable stores, popular restaurants, and trendy bars. Visitors to these establishments can become the unwitting target of these crimes of opportunity. Cars parked near sporting venues when games or concerts are scheduled may also be targeted. If you plan on parking your car in a neighborhood that is known for its numerous visitors, remember thieves know these areas are popular, too. Be sure to either take valuable property with you or secure it properly. Please take the precautions listed below to help ensure your auto is not targeted by thieves:

- **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.** Any time you're shopping, place packages in the trunk, not on the passenger seats or floors.
- **Lock It Up.** Also, keep your car doors and windows locked—all the time!

Remember: "Outta sight, outta mind"—if thieves can't see your valuables, they're less likely to waste their time targeting your auto. Take the time to secure your valuables; it makes a difference.

- » See these tips and more online at:
<http://mpdc.dc.gov/page/auto-theft-prevention>
- » Take precautions when pumping gas. Learn steps you can take in a brief video on our YouTube channel at:
<http://youtu.be/H4r2v3MhU-s>
- » Download a brochure on "Protecting Your Vehicle from Theft and Tampering" at:
http://mpdc.dc.gov/protectingyourvehicle_pdf

NEWS & NOTES

Also Noteworthy

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>.

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>.

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>.

Support the Washington DC Police Foundation. The Washington DC Police

Foundation is a tax-exempt, non-profit organization that brings together the business, civic, and other professional communities to promote public safety by providing financial and in-kind resources to the MPD, expanding public safety awareness, and advancing public safety policy and initiatives. Learn more about the extraordinary support the Washington DC Police Foundation provides to the MPD. Learn more about the Foundation at <http://www.dcpolicefoundation.org>.

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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