

WHAT'S *New*

IN THE METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

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



Friday, May 8, 2015

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 27th Annual Candlelight Vigil will be held at the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial on Wednesday, May 13, 2013. 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 (which was held May 5 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.



Locally, the Fraternal Order of Police Auxiliary sponsors the 36th Annual Memorial Service for law enforcement officers from the region killed in the line of duty. The ceremony will take place at 11 am on Monday, May 11, 2015, at the memorial fountain outside MPD Headquarters at 300 Indiana Avenue, NW. This year, the service will honor two members of the community who made the ultimate sacrifice in 2014.

- » National Police Week info and a schedule of events are at: <http://www.policeweek.org>
- » To learn more about the 36th Annual Washington Area Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Service, check out the FOP Auxiliary DC Lodge 1 Facebook event at: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1583717325246915/>
- » MPD maintains an online memorial to officers killed in the line of duty. Family members, friends and other loved ones may submit remembrances at: <http://mpdc.dc.gov/heroes>

CLICK IT OR TICKET ENFORCEMENT EFFORTS TO RUN THROUGH MAY 25

Wearing a seat belt is the single most effective way to avoid being killed in a crash. Would you ever ride a roller coaster without the harness down? Would you ever skydive without a parachute? When you ride in a motor vehicle without a seat belt, you are taking a huge risk. One you can’t afford. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, in 2013, there were 9,580 unbelted vehicle occupants killed in crashes on our nation’s roads.

This May 18 to 31, the Metropolitan Police Department is joining NHTSA and law enforcement agencies nationwide for the 2015 Click It or Ticket enforcement mobilization. We will be out in full force, cracking down on seat belt violations, issuing citations to anyone caught traveling without a buckled seat belt or transporting unrestrained children. We are determined to get the message across: Seat belts save lives. In fact, from 2008 to 2012, they saved nearly 63,000 lives. And in 2012, an additional 3,031 lives could have been saved if all unrestrained occupants involved in fatal crashes had worn their seat belts.

In addition to increased patrols and zero-tolerance enforcement, we really want to get the right information out to motorists. There are too many false notions out there about seat belts. Young adults in particular seem to think they are invincible in vehicles. Unfortunately, they are dying at a disproportionate rate because they are not wearing their seat belts. Almost

- » Learn more about the Click It or Ticket mobilization, dispel myths about seatbelt safety in the “real deal” section, and view related PSAs at: <http://www.nhtsa.gov/ciot>



twice as many men are dying in vehicle crashes compared to women, and wearing their seat belts less than women. Pickup truck occupants think that they don't need to wear their seat belts because they believe their large vehicles will protect them in a crash. The numbers from NHTSA tell the truth: 63 percent of pickup truck occupants who were killed in crashes were not buckled up. That's compared to 43 percent of passenger car occupants who were killed while not wearing their seat belts. During the Click It or Ticket enforcement period, an important part of our safety messaging to motorists includes the words "day and night" – and for good reason. In 2013, about 59 percent of passenger vehicle occupants were killed during the nighttime hours of 6 p.m. to 5:59 am who were not wearing their seat belts. More people are being killed in nighttime crashes than ever before, and we are going to be targeting nighttime seat belt violators as a result.

Next time you head out on the road, make sure you and everyone in your vehicle are buckled up. Don't just do it to avoid a ticket, do it so you arrive at your destination safely. Since it's our job to help protect area motorists, we're taking Click It or Ticket seriously. Consider yourself warned: If police catch you not wearing your seat belt on the road, you will get a ticket. No excuses, no warnings. We're hoping you'll get the message and buckle up every trip, every time, even after the crackdown period is over. Wearing your seat belt is required by law 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

So please remember, day and night, Click It or Ticket.

NEW AUTOMATED SPEED ENFORCEMENT LOCATIONS DEPLOYED

On May 1, 2015, the Metropolitan Police Department announced the deployment of new photo enforced locations beginning on or about May 4, 2015. The deployment locations for the Photo Enforcement Units will be sites where speeding has been identified to be a problem.

The 30-day educational phase, or "warning period," will commence on or about May 4, 2015. During this period, violators will receive warning citations. After the 30 day warning period, MPD will begin issuing live moving citations to violators. The new speed cameras are in 25 MPH zones unless otherwise indicated and located as follows:

- 700 block of Maryland Avenue, NE (southwestbound)
- 2600 block of Wisconsin Avenue, NW (northbound)
- 4400 block of Reservoir Road, NW (eastbound)
- 2400 block of 18th Street, NE (southbound)
- 3000 block of Pennsylvania Avenue, SE (northwestbound) // 30 mph

» For more information about automated enforcement in the District of Columbia, log onto: <http://mpdc.dc.gov/page/dc-streetsafe-automated-traffic-enforcement>.



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>.

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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