WHAT'S *New*

IN THE METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

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

Friday, February 12, 2016

NINETEEN NEW OFFICERS MEMBERS HITTING THE STREETS OF DC

Patrols in DC neighborhoods are being boosted by the addition of 15 officers who were sworn in during a graduation ceremony on Friday, May 13, 2016, at the Maurice T. Turner, Jr. Metropolitan Police Academy in Southwest DC.

Awards presented during the ceremony recognized the following new members' accomplishments:

Recruit Class 2015-08 Awardees

Award	Recipient
Academic Training Award	Officer Joseph Blasting
Firearms Training Award	Officer Jake Mudrezow
Physical Skills Award	Officer Shannon Luckenbill Officer Joseph Blasting

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.

» Check out our video: "It's a great time to be MPD. Are you the one?" at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iQaSjcyjW-U

» 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

MPD'S TEXT TIP LINE CAN NOW RECEIVE PHOTOS AND VIDEOS

In addition to anonymously texting tips to the MPD, community members can now use their cell phone to send pictures or video about serious or violent crimes to the Metropolitan Police Department.

Give 5-0 the 411 with the MPD's Text Tip Line: 50411. Text, photo and video messages are monitored by members of the department 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Tips on serious or violent crimes will be investigated by members of the department. If you would like a police response for any incident, please call 911. All tips may also be directed to (202) 727-9099 and may be eligible for a reward.

Message and Data Rates may apply.

Because the tip line is anonymous, the sender will not receive a response to the original message. The anonymous text tip line is not an emergency number. If you witness a crime in progress or have an emergency that requires the police, please call 911.

» Learn more about the MPD's Text Tip Line at: http://mpdc.dc.gov/service/text-police-50411

» The MPD rewards programs are designed to encourage individuals to step forward and provide police with information that will help solve crime and bring offenders to justice in DC. Get more information at: http://mpdc.dc.gov/rewards

BUCKLE UP, BABY!
KNOW THE FACTS ABOUT CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY

More parents and caregivers than ever before now secure their kids in child safety seats. But amid this good news is an alarming fact: too many parents still don't use the full range of child safety seats, especially booster seats. Safety experts strongly recommend that children should not be moved into regular seat belts until they are at least four feet, nine inches (4' 9") tall, weigh about 80 pounds, and are approximately eight years old. DC law now requires booster seats for children up to age 8.

The MPD encourages all parents and caregivers to know about and follow the law, to acquire and use age-appropriate child safety restraints, to have their child safety seats inspected, and to follow the four essential steps to protecting children in motor vehicles. The four steps to protect your children as they grow older are listed in the steps below. Remember to have safety seats inspected on a regular basis. Seat belts can seriously injure or kill small children who are not properly placed in child safety seats.

Protect your children as they grow older. Remember to have your children's safety seats inspected on a regular basis. Seat belts can seriously injure or kill small children who are not properly placed in child safety seats.

» Learn more about child passenger safety and the laws in the District of Columbia at: http://mpdc.dc.gov/carseat

» For information on keeping kids safe from car seats to car keys, check out "Parents Central" at: http://www.safercar.gov/parents/index.htm

» Find the right car seat to fit your child using the simple tool on Parents Central. Just enter their age, weight and height and they'll do the rest: http://www.safercar.gov/cpsApp/crs/index.htm

Car Seat Safety

Birth – 12 Months (REAR FACING CAR SEAT)

Your child under age 1 should always ride in a rear-facing car seat. There are different types of rear-facing car seats:

- Infant-only seats can only be used rear-facing
- Convertible and all-in-one car seats typically have higher height and weight limits for the rear-facing position, allowing you to keep your child rear-facing for a longer period of time.

1 - 3 Years (REAR FACING CAR SEAT/FORWARD FACING CAR SEAT)

Keep your child rear-facing as long as possible. It's the best way to keep him or her safe. Your child should remain in a rear-facing car seat until he or she reaches the top height or weight limit allowed by the car seat's manufacturer. Once your child outgrows the rear-facing car seat, your child is ready to travel in a forward-facing car seat with a harness and tether.

4 - 7 Years (FORWARD FACING CAR SEAT/BOOSTER SEAT)

Keep your child in a forward-facing car seat with a harness and tether until he or she reaches the top height or weight limit allowed by the car seat's manufacturer. Once your child outgrows the forward-facing car seat with a harness, it's time to travel in a booster seat, but still in the back seat.

8 - 12 Years (BOOSTER SEAT/SEAT BELT)

Keep your child in a booster seat until he or she is big enough to fit in a seat belt properly. For a seat belt to fit properly, the lap belt must lie snugly across the upper thighs, not the stomach. The shoulder belt should lie snugly across the shoulder and chest and not cross the neck or face. Remember: your child should still ride in the back seat because it's safer there.

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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