

THE RESERVE LOOKOUT



A Publication of the Metropolitan Police Department's Reserve Corps



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“Excellence in Volunteer Policing” - Commander Southby

RESERVIST SNAPSHOT



Reserve Officer Jean Sanders (Sandie)

Doptis has been a Reserve Officer since May 5, 2003. She was initially assigned to the 7th District and then moved to the Financial Crimes and Fraud Unit in 2005 specifically to assist with cases involving wills, trusts, powers of attorney and estates. Currently Reserve Officer Doptis assists the unit detectives with cases including theft, bank and mortgage fraud, embezzlement and more.

In her professional life, Reserve Officer Doptis is proprietor of a legal services and technical support company, Doptis & Buchanan, Inc. All employees are private investigators and they handle cases covering civil and criminal investigations, background and tenant checks and estate document drafting and estate administration.

Reserve Officer Doptis is also the co-founder of The Florian Foundation, which provides estate planning, free of charge, to anyone in the public safety field. The foundation assists various departments with the estates and family business of fallen officers and firefighters. These endeavors call on her vast experience and background in estate planning and administration, as well as her numerous years as a member of the Navy POW repatriation program.



After the first RCFI roll call conducted in the 3rd District, Reserve Corps members gather for a photo.

RESERVE CORPS FOCUSED INITIATIVE (RCFI) CONTINUES TO SUPPORT PATROL

The Reserve Corps is committed to making a valuable contribution to the Metropolitan Police Department's crime-fighting efforts. Consequently, the Reserve Corps supports patrol on a consistent basis in areas that need special attention for various reasons (traffic, crime, and crowd control). During the spring of 2010, the Reserve Corps implemented a

strategy to assist patrol members in their crime-fighting efforts and called it the Reserve Corps Focused Initiative (RCFI). It offers members the opportunity to assist in patrols throughout the seven Police Districts. Reserve members are deployed

to areas designated by career command officials as needing special attention. RCFIs are conducted twice a month on a scheduled Friday or Saturday, between 7 pm and 4 am. The RCFI scheduled dates are listed in the Reserve Corps Information Portal (RCIP). Members simply sign up for an upcoming RCFI through the RCIP. On the scheduled RCFI, roll



Reserve Corps members receive their RCFI assignments at the 2nd District Roll Call.



Commander Richard Southby and Inspector Dennis Starks review RCFI manpower and beat locations.

calls are conducted and members receive their assignments. Then they hit the streets for the night. The primary RCFI commanding official for each RCFI is the Reserve Platoon Leader at the District where the RCFI is being held. Platoon

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Prior to Reserve Corps member taking their RCFI assignment in the 3rd District, Sergeant Laura Liswood conducts an inspection

Leaders coordinate their plans with **Reserve Inspector Dennis Starks**, who is responsible for the operational aspects of the RCFIs. Platoon Leaders submit After Action Reports through Inspector Starks to **Commander Richard Southby** who for-

wards them to **Executive Director Polly Hanson** and **Assistant Chief Groomes**.

The RCFIs provide additional police resources

through an increased police presence, thereby deterring crime. Since the initial RCFI deployment in May 2010, the Reserve Corps members have contributed over 2,000 volunteer service hours towards this initiative. This is in addition to other Reserve Corps services performed throughout the year. Feedback has been positive from community members, career patrol officers, command staff and Reserve Corps members. The Reserve Corps wishes to continue its support of the Department through initiatives such as the RCFI. Additionally, Reserve Corps members would like to thank all career command officials, and especially Commander Andrew Solberg and Sergeant Janice Forster of the Metropolitan Police Academy, who have assisted us by providing vehicles and bikes for the RCFI's.

COMMANDER'S CORNER



This past year has been one of significant transformation for the Reserve Corps. We have seen many positive developments and these included:

- The Reserve Corps Focused Initiatives (RCFIs) were successfully implemented and are now our "signature activity." In each District where the RCFIs have operated, the District

Commanders have complimented our contributions to crime prevention and law enforcement. **Assistant Chief Groomes** has also been very pleased with the operation of the new RCFI program. I am especially grateful to **Inspector Dennis Starks**, the Platoon Leaders and all the other officials and officers who have participated in the RCFI's on a regular basis. In 2011, I expect the level of participation to increase so that every member of the Reserve Corps will be involved in this activity on a consistent basis.

- The welcoming of a new group of Level 2 graduates to the Corps. We are hoping to start another Level 2 Class early in 2011.
- The Reserve Corps Information Portal (RCIP), which was developed and implemented by **Lieutenant Daniel Ewell** and **Ben Haiman**. This new technology enables us to send out information to the Corps, register for details and special events and record service hours in a very efficient manner.
- Special weekend Professional Development Train-

ing sessions at the Police Academy, which were arranged by Lieutenant Ewell. This enabled the majority of our members to complete their requirements at convenient times.

Thank you to all who attended the most enjoyable Recognition Ceremony and Holiday Reception at the Metropolitan Police Academy on December 14, 2010. I also want to thank **Executive Director Polly Hanson**, who co-hosted the reception with me, and Lieutenant Ewell for the outstanding video summary of the Reserve Corps in 2010.

Finally, I want to take this opportunity to express my appreciation to **Chief Cathy Lanier**; Executive Director Polly Hanson and her Strategic Services Bureau Staff; Lieutenant Ewell, the Reserve Corps Liaison; Inspector Starks; Captain Harrington; and the Platoon Leaders for their strong and consistent support of the Reserve Corps throughout 2010. I am grateful to the many Reserve Corps officers who have gone the extra mile this past year. You ensured that we met our many and varied commitments, which helped us make significant contributions, as volunteer law enforcement officers, to the Department and the residents of and visitors to the District of Columbia.

I look forward to working with all of you in 2011. I know that it will be an even more successful year for the Reserve Corps!

Sincerely,

Commander Richard F. Southby
Commanding Officer

RESERVES IN ACTION

High Heel Race Event

The High Heel Race is a yearly event which draws thousands of on-lookers and participants along 17th & R Street, NW. Men in drag parade down 17th Street in showing off their elaborate costumes. This event culminates when they race down 17th Street wearing high heels. Career **Lieutenant Scott Dignan** was on the scene directing police operations. He expressed great appreciation for the many Reserve Corps members who came out to assist with crowd and traffic control.



Reserve Sergeant Christopher Lively and Reserve Lieutenant Eric Gaul providing crowd control on 17th Street, NW.



Halloween Georgetown Detail

On Halloween, Georgetown, near M Street and Wisconsin Avenue, NW, -Halloween Eve has traditionally been the main thoroughfare for many residents, tourists and party goers making their way to patronize local clubs and restaurants. In addition, many citizens parade up and down the sidewalks showing off their Halloween costumes. With the increased pedestrian and vehicular traffic, this area requires additional police resources.

The Reserve Corps deployed on Saturday, October 30, 2010, to assist patrol officers in the 2nd District with traffic and crowd control. As has been the practice for many years, the Reserve Corps was deployed to assist career members in providing a safe passage for citizens. **Lieutenant John Hedgecock**, 2nd District Patrol Lieutenant, expressed his appreciation for the added manpower the Reserve Corps contributed to this event.



On Halloween Eve, Reserve Officer Carlos Santana directs traffic at Wisconsin and M Street, NW.



Right to Left: Reserve Officials Commander Richard Southby, Sergeant Christopher Lively, Sergeant Tom Flaherty and career Lieutenant John Hedgecock review Georgetown Halloween operation plans on the MPD Command Bus.

Christmas Season and New Year's Eve Detail

During the evening hours of the holiday season, Reserve Corps members patrolled in designated areas of the First and Second Districts, providing additional police presence for citizens at the various clubs, restaurants and shopping areas.



Prior to taking their New Year's Eve assignment, Reserve Officer Lisa Guzzy and Reserve Sergeant Robert Baechtel inspect the police cruiser.



On November 26, 2010, Lieutenant Thomas Clouse conducts Roll Call at the 7th District.

RESERVE CORPS WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

The Reserve Corps is proud to welcome the following new members: **Officers Marcello Muzzatti, Steven Fletcher** and **Sean Hearn**. All three members were former MPD officers. Muzzatti served 29 years before retiring from MPD in April 2010. Muzzatti was a K-9 Handler for 20 years. He also served in the Special Operation Division (SOD) for 13 years. He brings a wealth of knowledge concerning special operations. Muzzatti will be assigned to SOD and will assist Reserve **Captain Lawrence Harrington** with special event planning involving the Reserve Corps.

Prior to joining the Reserve Corps, Hearn served ten years with MPD as an officer. His last assignment was in Domestic Security Operations, Homeland Security Bureau. He left MPD to take a job with the Oakridge Institute of Science and Education. Hearn will be assigned

to the Homeland Security Bureau where he will provide valuable assistance.

Fletcher served as patrol officer for three years and was assigned to the Second District where he was very active with the 2nd District community. In addition to his general reserve duties, he will again be assisting Second District **Lieutenant Scott Dignan**, with community initiatives and events. Fletcher is now pursuing a degree in the medical field. Muzzatti, Hearn and Fletcher wanted to continue serving the community in a valuable capacity and their experience and commitment will be great assets to the Reserve Corps in providing support resources to the Department and the DC community.

AWARDS, CONTRIBUTIONS, AND RECOGNITION

Reserve Corps Members' Hard Work and Dedication Recognized

In the culmination of a monumental year, the MPD Reserve Corps honored more than 25 of its officers for their outstanding contributions to the Corps and community during the Department's 1st Annual Reserve Corps Recognition Ceremony, held on Tuesday, December 14, 2010.

MPD career liaison, **Lieutenant Daniel Ewell**, began the evening with a video presentation consisting of photographs of the Reserves in action he had taken during the past year. Reserve Corps members and guests enjoyed this retrospective set to music, depicting images—both candid and posed—of their accomplishments.

Reserve **Commander Richard Southby**, along with **Reserve Inspector Dennis Starks** and **Executive Director Polly Hanson**, presented commendations ranging from service hours to retirements. First District **Reserve Officer Adam Parkhomenko**, received the Reserve Corps Commander's Meritorious Service Certificate for his contributions in making significant arrests and assisting career officers in patrol.

Reserve Officer Jean Doptis, of the Financial Crimes Division, was praised for her work on an estate fraud case which, once prosecuted, became a landmark case for DC probate court and set a new standard for estate fraud.

Reserve **Sergeants Tom Flaherty** (3rd District), **Sergio DeJesus** (5th District), and **Rob Baechtel** (1st District), were recognized for their outstanding leadership and tireless contributions to the Reserve Corps as Platoon Leaders.

Reserve Corps members assigned to the First District (**Reserve Sergeant Robert Baechtel**, **Reserve Officers Michael Baker, Rodger Currie, William Fagan, Kurt Hoffman, Clarence Labor, Elbert Mays, Leo Pinson and Adam Parkhomenko**) received the Reserve Corps Unit Citation Certificate for overall support as a unit.

Reserve **Officers Michael Ashley, Jeremy Brady, Christopher Diagnault, James Ollinger and Chauncey Payne** were recognized with the Reserve Corps Event Commemorative Service Certificate for contributing the most service hours for special events and details such as the Reserve Corps Focus Initiative.

Reserve Sergeant Laura Liswood and **Reserve Officer Billingsley** each received an honorable mention for their supporting roles in Reserve Corps operations.

First District Reserve **Officers Tam Tran-Viet and Roger Currie** were recognized for their diligence and perseverance

in becoming the first Reserve Corps Motor Unit.

The highlight of the evening was the recognition of three Reserve Corps Officials for their lifetime of service: **Lieutenant Alphonzo Martin**, with 37 years of service; **Lieutenant Willard King**, with 21 years of service; and **Lieutenant Clyde Smith**, with 20 years of service. They received framed retirement certificates along with gold official badges encased in Lucite® as a lifelong keepsake. The MPD and the Reserve Corps extend their sincere gratitude to these gentlemen for their extended years of dedicated service and leadership.

Even the most basic of efforts were recognized as important contributions... and rightly so. All Reserve Corps members present who had completed their minimum 192 annual hours requirement received certificates of appreciation for their endeavors.

After the ceremony, there was a lingering feeling of pride and esprit de corps felt by officers and their guests in the auditorium. "This was an outstanding event," said Fifth District Reserve **Officer Daniel Billingsley**. "A small gesture such as this will do so much for the morale and temperament of the reserves."

Reserve Corps Sergeant Alexander Pope Receives the 13th Annual "Law Enforcement Awards of Excellence for Impaired Driving Prevention."

On December 17, 2010, the nonprofit organization Washington Regional Alcohol Program (WRAP) presented **Reserve Sergeant Alexander Pope** with an award for outstanding commitment in the fight against drunk driving in Greater Washington. Reserve Sergeant Pope was among eleven recipients to receive this award.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Please visit the Reserve Corps Information Portal (RCIP) for further upcoming events.