

# **Annual Awards Ceremony**

# TUESDAY, MARCH 19th, 2019

Honoring the accomplishments of members of the Department and our community partners for their outstanding efforts over the past year

# THEARC

1901 Mississippi Avenue, SE | Washington, DC

DOORS OPEN AT 6 PM | EVENT STARTS AT 7 PM





# **A BRIEF HISTORY**

N 1790, MARYLAND AND VIRGINIA ceded portions of their territory for the purpose of establishing the Federal City. For the next 10 years, the Federal City was policed by constables appointed by these two states. In

■ 1802, when the original charter of Washington was approved, police authority was centralized and power was granted to the city itself to establish patrols, impose fines, and establish inspection and licensing procedures. Until the creation of the Metropolitan Police Department in 1861, the city had only an auxiliary watch with one captain and 15 policemen.

In 1861, President Abraham Lincoln took personal interest in founding a regular police department for the District of Columbia. It was a time of constant danger in the Nation's Capital. With the beginning of the Civil War, an army was billeted in the city, government employees were increased by ten-fold, and hordes of unsavory



elements descended upon the District's few square miles. President Lincoln personally dispatched an emissary from the newly created Board of Metropolitan Police Commissioners to New York City to become familiar with that system, which itself was based on the world-acclaimed Metropolitan London Police Department.

The ideas and knowledge gained from this study led to the creation of the Metropolitan Police Department on August 6, 1861. In September of that year, attorney William B. Webb was appointed the first Superintendent of the Police, with an authorized force of 10 sergeants and a number of patrolmen as needed, but not to exceed 150. Up to 10 precincts were authorized. The Superintendent of Police was paid \$1,500 annually, with sergeants earning \$600 and patrolmen \$480.

The sergeants and most of the personnel for two precincts were sworn in that September. Officers had to be US citizens, able to read and write the English language, have been DC residents for two years, never convicted of a crime, between 25 and 45 years of age, and at least five feet, six inches



tall. The men went to work right away in 12-hour shifts, seven days a week with no days off and no vacations. They were issued neither equipment nor badges, and they had to obtain their own handguns. The first arrest made by a Metropolitan Police officer was on a charge of intoxication.

# **PROGRAM OF EVENTS**

elcome to the Nineteenth Annual Metropolitan Police Department Awards Ceremony, honoring the employees of the MPDC and our law enforcement partners, civic organizations, and residents who have helped to make a difference in our communities over the past year. This year our ceremony will celebrate outstanding contributions to the Department's overall mission.

Opening Remarks	Officer James Thomas
	Metropolitan Police Department
	Meagan Fitzgerald
	NBC Washington

Presentation of Colors	. MPD Honor Guard
National Anthem	. Officer Antonio McKnight
Invocation	. Monsignor Salvatore Criscuolo
Welcome	. Mayor Muriel Bowser

#### Presentation of Awards

Sworn Bureau Employees of the Year	NSID Officer of the Year
Civilian Bureau Employees of the Year	SAU/SIB Detective of the Year
District Officers of the Year	Detective of the Year
District Detectives of the Year	Sergeant of the Year
Youth Division Detective of the Year	Lieutenant of the Year
Homicide Detective of the Year	Captain of the Year
Community Policing Award	Inspector of the Year
Joseph Pozell Reserve Member of the Year	Commander of the Year
Citizen Volunteer Corps Member of the Year	Citizen of the Year
Crime Suppression Team Award	Deborah Ennis Civilian Employee of the Year
Crime Reduction Award	Officer of the Year
Patrol Services Area of the Year	Law Enforcement Commendation Award
School Resource Officer of the Year	Chief of Police Special Award

Closing Remarks	. Chief Peter Newsham
Benediction	. Monsignor Salvatore Criscuolo

#### SWORN BUREAU EMPLOYEES OF THE YEAR

CORPORATE SUPPORT BUREAU

#### **Lieutenant James Brown**

ieutenant James Brown: Lieutenant Brown consistently and effectively carries out the day-to-day operations of the Corporate Support Bureau, often working beyond his tour and days off to meet all of the bureau's objectives. During the uniform rollout project, Lieutenant Brown volunteered extra time and days to ensure the project was a success. Because of his efforts, over 3,500 members are now wearing the new uniforms. These new uniforms deliver comfort, professionalism and uniformity.



#### HOMELAND SECURITY BUREAU

#### **Officer Jeffrey Scharf**

fficer Scharf has identified numerous suspects for the District Detective Units and the Homicide Branch. His assistance has proven instrumental in the arrests and closures of multiple cases. Additionally, Officer Scharf's excellent rapport with validated gang/crew members and sources of information has yielded valuable information during debriefs for both victims and suspects of crimes.



#### INVESTIGATIVE SERVICES BUREAU

# **Sergeant Sonja Flipping**

ergeant Flipping has been with the School Safety Division (SSD) since its inception and currently coordinates the division's outreach programs. Sergeant Flipping's professional and dependable demeanor is instrumental in conducting appropriate and innovative outreach programs. Her vast experience and institutional knowledge allows her to connect with people of all ages creating invaluable experiences for the communities she serves.



#### SWORN BUREAU EMPLOYEES OF THE YEAR

#### PATROL SERVICES NORTH

#### Lieutenant Dawn B-Anu Amen-Ra

ieutenant Anu helped organize an Officer Appreciation Day event for all three shifts in recognition of the Third District winning the 2017 Crime Reduction Award. She always strives to improve officer morale by showing them daily appreciation. She is a motivated team player who encourages participation in the Third District's community outreach programs such as the Angel Giving Tree and Secret Santa program. Lieutenant Anu accomplishes these positive interactions while also handling all the responsibilities of being a shift Watch Commander and sector manager.

#### PATROL SERVICES SOUTH

#### **Officer Matthew Jones**

ince 2016, Officer Jones has helped close more than 100 illegal dumping cases including, most recently, a case involving thousands of tires in Wards 7 and 8. Not only did he help build a solid case against the suspect, he also helped organize a community cleanup (on his day off) to remove the tires from the dumping site in Ward 7. He is a relentless investigator who has piloted the successful use of surveillance technologies to catch perpetrators in the act. The evidence captured by using these tools has led to an extremely high prosecution rate of cases.

#### INTERNAL AFFAIRS BUREAU

#### **Detective Kimberley Metivier**

etective Metivier is highly dependable and considered the "go-to" agent at the Internal Affairs Division. She takes on high profile, complex investigations in addition to her regular assignments. Even with extra caseloads, Detective Metivier never takes shortcuts or stops working a case until she has examined every fact. She is an essential leader who uses her experience to help train new detectives, ensuring that they become well-rounded, proficient members of the team.







# SWORN BUREAU EMPLOYEES OF THE YEAR

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT BUREAU

#### **Officer Tamu Morainey**

fficer Morainey is a motivated and exceptional instructor at the Metropolitan Police Academy (MPA) whose organizational skills are critical to running effective recruit training operations. In addition to her primary duties, she collaborates with elementary, high school, and charters schools in the Seventh District, establishing a partnership that allows recruit officers to visit schools to participate in activities and interact with youth.



# CIVILIAN BUREAU EMPLOYEES OF THE YEAR

**EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE** 

# Heidi Fieselmann

eidi is a dedicated and hard-working member of the Executive Office of the Chief of Police (EOCOP). She has served as the Chief's point person on a number of significant initiatives including the establishment of the Crime Gun Intelligence Center, Summer Crime Initiative, Redistricting, and the Chief's Strategic Planning effort. She is also a trusted representative of the Chief and serves as a key liaison to a number of external stakeholders. As a critical member of the team, the results from her projects speak volumes about her work ethic, dedication, and commitment to serving MPD and the community.



#### HOMELAND SECURITY BUREAU

#### Lauren Kelly

auren is integral to the success of the Investigative Support Section (ISS) through her innovative techniques used to assist in enhancing MPD's investigative support. She spearheaded a comprehensive social media investigative initiative and worked closely with the Narcotics and Special Investigations Division and Intel in providing new and operational information from these searches. Additionally, she is the lead trainer for the ISS, and has trained five new Criminal Research Specialists who are all fully operational and major assets to the Joint Strategic and Tactical Analysis Command Center.



INTERNAL AFFAIRS BUREAU

#### Jessica Willis

ourt Liaison Division (CLD) Clerical Assistant, Jessica Willis, provides outstanding service and has learned through her own self-initiative, the majority of the requirements of the CLD units. She assists and trains other CLD staff with ensuring Notice of Infraction (NOI) hearings run smoothly and has learned other position requirements in order to verify all court attendance time in the CANS System. Jessica also displays her teamwork by filling in at the front-counter unit when required to ensure CLD functions efficiently.



# **CIVILIAN BUREAU EMPLOYEES OF THE YEAR**

INVESTIGATIVE SERVICES BUREAU

# **Janice Sullivan**

s the Program Manager for the Contract Compliance Unit, Janice managed a variety of complicated projects during her time with the Metropolitan Police Department. In her role as the Contract Administrator for the School Safety Contract for DC Public Schools (DCPS), a complex \$20 million contract, she supervised a staff of Contract Monitor Managers, Contract Managers and Staff Assistants to ensure the contractor and DCPS complied with the security contract. Janice's knowledge, professionalism and integrity ensured that all parties remained in compliance with the contract. Janice retired in January 2019 after serving MPD and District of Columbia for 35 years.



INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY BUREAU

#### **Barry Jamison**

n October 2016, Barry Jamison was hired as the First District Body Worn Camera coordinator. He was so successful in keeping the First District program running smoothly and efficiently that he was also assigned to the manage the program at Narcotics and Special Investigations Division, and eventually added Special Operation Division to his responsibilities. He is always available to the members for assistance and has been instrumental in providing effective communication within the Command level all the way down to the user level of the BWC program.



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT BUREAU

#### **Catherine Tedrow**

rs. Tedrow, also known as Katy, is assigned to the Recruiting Division and assists the Office of Volunteer Coordination. She is responsible for the many background investigations for Reserve Officers, Interns, and Citizen Volunteers. Katy is not afraid to take on additional assignments and will not rest until the job is completed. It is without a doubt that Katy is an important member of the Metropolitan Police Department, and her work contributes to the department's success.



# **CIVILIAN BUREAU EMPLOYEES OF THE YEAR**

PATROL SERVICES SOUTH

#### **Anthony Holliday**

nthony Holliday consistently goes above and beyond his duties as a Vehicle Maintenance Officer. During recent full civil disturbance unit deployments, Anthony recognized the parking challenges around the First District station, and met with a member from the DC Fire Department and explained the issues regarding parking. Following this meeting, Anthony was granted access to the DCFD's facility located beside the First District Station. Anthony's critical thinking skills ensured that First District members had access to a parking lot during critical deployment hours.



#### PATROL SERVICES NORTH

#### **Shearine Sawyer**

s. Shearine Sawyer is the lead Time and Attendance clerk at the Third District. During a significant portion of 2018, she was the sole clerk and was responsible for the payroll operations for over 350 people. Each week, she worked hard without complaint to make sure that members were paid correctly. In addition to the payroll, Ms. Sawyer is responsible for maintaining the 3D leave calendar and the hundreds of requests that come in for leave. On several occasions Mrs. Sawyer's attention to detail identified several matters that only an efficient and detail oriented T&A clerk would have been able to track and identify.



CORPORATE SUPPORT BUREAU

# **Matthew Miranda**

atthew Miranda has performed extremely well after being recently promoted to the Director of Medical Services. He has assisted with the selection of a Medical Services Contractor, avoiding a potential delay in services to our members. He worked days off and extra time to organize and distribute new uniforms to over 3,500 members. He has been extremely instrumental with the Corporate Support Bureau meeting its goals and objectives and should be commended.



### DISTRICT OFFICERS OF THE YEAR

#### FIRST DISTRICT

### **Officer Keith Byrd**

fficer Keith Byrd brings the energy and excitement every day to make his PSA safer than he left it the day before. Byrd has taken the responsibility of identifying and tracking violent offenders, obtaining stay-away orders and warrants, as well as working closely with the USAO and OAG to see cases through the judicial system. Officer Byrd comes from a prior career as an Arson Investigator, and brings the skills he developed working cases from an investigative point of view. His skills are a powerful deterrent to crime which is both enthusiastic and yet non-intrusive at the same time.



#### SECOND DISTRICT

# **Officers David Casetta and David Moseley**

n Monday, November 12, 2018, Officers David Caserta and David Moseley responded to 2600 block of Connecticut Avenue, NW, for a male attempting to commit suicide on the William Taft Bridge. Officers Casetta and Moseley responded to the bridge and observed a male on the outer side of the railing hanging on. These officers immediately took action by grabbing him and pulling him over the railing to safety. It



was later discovered that he had a suicide note taped to his leg. The subject told the officers that he was three seconds from jumping when he saw the officers. The heroic actions were admirable and great examples of MPD bravery.

#### Third District

#### **Officer Wade Cress**

fficer Cress is a model officer who consistently performs at a high level and has transitioned into a leader. The Third District received a priority radio run for a man with a knife knocking on doors and trying to gain entry into people's home. Officer Cress was on a mountain bike patrolling when he realized the direction of travel of the suspect. He immediately responded to the area and stopped the individual with the knife. He was then able to talk the suspect down, get him to drop the knife, and took him into custody without any force. He showed great decision making skill and superb tactics.



# DISTRICT OFFICERS OF THE YEAR

FOURTH DISTRIC

### **Officer Christopher Stokes**

s a team member, Officer Stokes brings a wide array of knowledge and experience to members of the Fourth District. He has seamlessly transitioned from patrol duties to vice work, and has landed solidly as a Field Training Officer. As a Field Training Officer, Officer Stokes observes, corrects and encourages the newest, most impressionable members of the department. He exhibits great patience and understanding when working with new officers, setting a fine example for those members as well as his peers.



#### FIFTH DISTRICT

### **Officer Megan Mulrooney**

ver the past year, Officer Mulrooney served as the primary officer conducting social media investigations for the Fifth District. She personally researched and assisted with the execution of 15 search warrants related to THC pop-up parties and Hashish manufacturing, which led to several violent crimes in the Fifth District. In total, 170 individuals were arrested as a result of these warrants and 13 firearms were recovered along with an estimated \$1 million in street value drugs. The techniques Officer Mulrooney developed were so effective that she was invited to train the Crime Suppression Team in both the Second and Third Districts.



#### SIXTH DISTRICT

#### **Officer Rafael Lopez**

fficer Lopez has been an integral part of the Sixth District, specifically the Street Crimes Unit, for many years. He serves in a surveillance capacity while in full uniform, makes pro-active arrests, and helps new members within the unit. Officer Lopez individually made 26 arrests in 2018; however, his work led to countless others. He is an officer with great work ethic and a commitment to professionalism, and has helped the Sixth District Street Crimes Unit in obtaining Unit Citations and Achievement Medals in 2018.



# DISTRICT OFFICERS OF THE YEAR

#### SEVENTH DISTRICT

# **Officer Christina Laury**

fficer Christina Laury is an essential member of the Seventh District Crime Suppression Team; a unit that routinely tackles a variety of complex and recurrent challenges. She is uniquely the most conversant member of her unit, displays profound work ethic, and is elemental in most of the Crime Suppression Team's narcotic and firearm interdiction cases. She is humble in her work, never seeking specific acknowledgement, and is routinely the first trusted by her supervisors with specialized tasks or investigations.





### **DISTRICT DETECTIVES OF THE YEAR**

#### FIRST DISTRICT

#### **Detective Antoinette Mason**

etective Antoinette Mason was chosen as the First District Detective of the year because of her work ethic and countless closed robbery cases. Detective Mason additionally has the highest closure rate within the office and is assigned to investigate all robberies that occur in the Northeast area of the First District. Between June 18, 2018 and June 28, 2018, she investigated, arrested and closed three robberies and two stolen autos, as well as executed 2 search warrants and recovered the handgun and property.



#### SECOND DISTRICT

#### **Detective James O'Bannon**

etective O'Bannon is a hard worker who consistently exhibits dedication to the citizens he has been sworn to serve. He is a true professional and an asset to the Metropolitan Police Department. Detective O'Bannon maintains a 100 percent closure rate for violent crimes and a 33 percent closure rate for robberies in October, November, and December of 2018. He has demonstrated outstanding work in these crime categories.



#### THIRD DISTRICT

#### **Detective Alfonso Matos**

etective Alfonso Matos displays a degree of skill and dedication that is rare among investigators. On January 22, 2018, Matos and other officers were investigating an armed robbery where the complainant's property was stolen at gunpoint. Detective Matos and other officers tracked the complainant's phone and observed a person of interest enter a metro bus. Matos tracked the bus/phone and the suspect was found in possession of the complainant's property incident to arrest. Detective Matos' actions are in the finest tradition of the Metropolitan Police Department.



### DISTRICT DETECTIVES OF THE YEAR

#### Fourth Districi

# **Detective Michael Bridgett**

etective Michael Bridgett deserves to be the Fourth District Detective of the Year for his outstanding work in investigating and closing cases, and for his dedication to helping his fellow co-workers ensure the job gets done. Throughout the year of 2018, he has been assigned to the Fourth District Detectives Unit investigating over 80 felony cases. Detective Bridgett continues to do an excellent job and deserves to be recognized for his hard work.



#### FIFTH DISTRICT

# **Detective Alexis Sakulich**

etective Alexis Sakulich deserves to be the Fifth District Detective of the Year. Working in the Violent Crimes Section, the success of her work has been noted on five recommendations of outstanding achievement throughout the year 2018. These awards included the arrest of the suspect responsible for a drive-by shooting of an innocent 9 yearold boy. Also, Detective Sakulich was responsible for the arrest of the suspect who committed a quadruple shooting on Benning Road in 2018.



#### SIXTH DISTRICT

#### **Detective Donte' Allen**

etective Allen is an exceptional Detective who consistently displays professionalism, is a team player, and oftentimes assists his coworkers with their cases. There are several cases that highlights Detective Allen's ability. On May 10, 2018, an individual called the police station and threatened to shoot members of the police force. On May 11, 2018, Detective Allen was able to execute a search warrant, recover two guns and arrest the offender. Over the course of the year, Detective Allen consistently holds himself to a high standard and handles a wide array of cases.



# **DISTRICT DETECTIVES OF THE YEAR**

#### SEVENTH DISTRICT

# **Detective Brett Cuevas**

etective Brett Cuevas deserves to be the Seventh District Detective of the Year due to his patience, diligence and ability to communicate with both victims and suspects involved in the cycle of criminal offenses within the 7th District. Detective Cuevas should be recognized for his personal motivation, excellent teamwork and the professionalism that he displayed over the duration of the calendar year of 2018. This exemplary job performance demonstrates his dedication to this department and more importantly to the public to which he serves.





### YOUTH DIVISION DETECTIVE OF THE YEAR

# **Detective Aaron Makanoff**

etective Aaron Makanoff has investigated over 70 cases of child abuse during the year; in each case putting the dignity and well-being of the child victim first, working restlessly to see that each case is brought to a conclusion. For example, Makanoff was assigned a case involving a 39 year-old suspect who shared an apartment with a 12 year-old female child and her family. The suspect sexually abused the child for over a year. Detective Makanoff was able to collect digital evidence and a confession from the suspect, resulting in his arrest and prosecution.



#### HOMICIDE DETECTIVE OF THE YEAR

#### **Detective Konstantinos Giannakoulias**

etective Gus Giannakoulias closed the high profile case of 10 year-old Makiyah Wilson, who was tragically killed while on her way to get ice cream in 2018. On July 16, 2018, members of the Metropolitan Police Department's Sixth District were dispatched to 300 block of 53rd Street, NE, and located a 10 year-old juvenile female, unconscious and not breathing, suffering from an apparent gunshot wound. Detective Gus Giannakoulias was assigned as the lead detective, and executed numerous search warrants that lead to the arrest of 6 suspects. It is with great honor Detective Gus Giannakoulias receives Metropolitan Police Department's Homicide Detective of the year.



## **COMMUNITY POLICING AWARD**

# **Officer Lashaun Phillips**

outh outreach officers have a community policing philosophy that is built around the ideals of consistency, longevity, structure, dedication, trust and respect. Officer Phillips proves to be an example of such characteristics on a daily basis. Officer Phillips' mission was to serve as a positive role model and mentor in the schools and communities. She was also responsible for fostering a safe learning environment through classroom instructions and community events. With the help of her partner and members of the Youth Intervention and Prevention Unit, Officer Phillips provides support, resources, and understanding of each youth's unique and individual circumstances.



### JOSEPH POZELL RESERVE OFFICER OF THE YEAR

# **Officer Alexander Fischoff**

eserve Officer Alexander Fischoff custom-developed, deployed and maintains an online portal for the Office of Volunteer Coordination. This portal has made oversight and management of the growing Reserve Corp and Office of Volunteer Services much easier. Reserve Officer Fischoff completed this project above and beyond meeting his regular required volunteer service commitments, and thus deserves the Joseph Pozell Reserve Officer of the Year award.





#### **CITIZEN VOLUNTEER CORPS MEMBER OF THE YEAR**

## **Elizabeth Hoopes**

s. Elizabeth Hoopes has been an integral supporter of MPD's Community Engagement Academy (CEA). After graduating from the CEA herself, she joined the Volunteer Corps to support the recruitment, planning and logistics of the CEA. Ms. Hoopes is at every CEA meeting, helps track attendance, follows up with participants regarding logistics, and most importantly, collects survey data regarding the participant's perspective on each session of the CEA. This helps the Office of Volunteer Coordination proactively improve the quality of our CEA.



# CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

## **Brenda Richardson**

very day, Ms. Brenda Richardson makes an effort to improve PSA 702 through various strategies. With Ms. Richardson leading the way, Captain Carlos Heraud and Ms. Richardson held several successful events, some of which include monthly community meetings and monthly community walks. Ms. Richardson encouraged several non-profit organizations, companies and community stakeholders to donate holiday gifts. Her efforts resulted in over 500 gifts being donated and distributed throughout PSA 702. It has been well recognized that Ms. Richardson's efforts, in coordination with MPD, has certainly reduced violent crime in PSA 702.



### SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION AWARD

#### **Officer Jose Jimenez**

hile Officer Jimenez was off-duty, in plain clothes with his wife, he swiftly and courageously responded to a violent assault in progress. He witnessed two subjects engaged in a violent struggle on the street, confronted the assailant and detained him until backup arrived. MPD arrested and charged the suspect with Murder II while armed. Officer Jimenez is a true professional who embodies the spirit of MPD's motto of "We are here to help."



### **CRIME SUPPRESSION TEAM AWARD**

#### **Crime Suppression Team**

2018. the Seventh n District's Crime Suppression Team (CST) conducted themselves professionally. respectfully and constitutionally. subsequently yielding some of the agency's most pro-active and impressive policing. The members assigned to CST are dedicated, ethically driven and



top notch police officers, and should be recognized as such. In 2017, the unit recovered 235 guns and seized over \$56,000 of U.S. Currency, surpassing their productivity of the previous year. During 2018, they made 34 arrests, executed 56 search warrants and seized 30 vehicles. Their efforts contributed to a 10 percent reduction in overall crime.

#### **CRIME REDUCTION AWARD**

#### **Gun Recovery Unit**

the 2018, Gun n Recovery Unit recovered 425 firearms and over 8,600 rounds of ammunition, which is the second largest recovery for the unit since its inception in 2007. The GRU also presented 216 firearms cases before the United States Attorney in 2018, which resulted in 98 percent of those continuing cases



through the legal process for prosecution. Additionally in 2018, the Gun Recovery Unit executed well over 140 search warrants, which included Gun Recovery Unit cases, and select Criminal Investigations Division (CID) district and homicide cases as well. Each year, no other law enforcement unit in the country recovers more illegal firearms per capita, and successfully brings such a high percentage of those cases through the judicial process.

#### PATROL SERVICES AREA OF THE YEAR

### **Police Service Area 608**

or the 2018 members year, assigned to Sector 1. PSA 608 maintained the highest reduction in violent crime. crime. property and overall total crime for the Sixth District. They had a 35 percent reduction in violent crime, a 21 percent reduction of property crime, and an overall 24 percent reduction in total crime for the year. Throughout the year, they



constantly patrolled their area on foot, mountain bikes, police scooters, and in scout cars, handling assignments and engaging the community. This reduction further depicts that the members of PSA 608 maintained the integrity of their beat, and were invested in the strategies created by the PSA manager.

#### SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER OF THE YEAR

#### **Officer Todd Williams**

chool Resource Officer Todd Williams is leading the SROs with outstanding and exemplary work. Officer Todd Williams took an oath to protect and serve the citizens of the District of Columbia in 2002. SRO Williams was born and raised in the Ward 8 Community and graduated from the same schools he now walks today. He has earned the respect of the students and teachers in his school, and is recognized by elementary to high school students as "Big Baby," Officer Todd, and most recently as the "Mayor of 7D".





# **NSID OFFICER OF THE YEAR**

# **Detective Michael Iannacchione**

ichael Iaruiacchione was the lead investigator on a case with the Drug Enforcement Administration Washington Division Cross Border Initiative (DEACBI), leading to the dismantlement of a major drug organization supplying drugs to the District of Columbia. Members of the group, including Detective Iannacchione, worked long hours to include weekends, holidays and summer vacation spending extended time away from their families. They coordinated with numerous local, state and federal agencies, multiple DEA divisions and several United States Attorney Offices to close this case.



# SAU/SIB DETECTIVE OF THE YEAR

# **Detective James Phillips**

etcctive James Phillips's hard work and tireless effort to assist sexual assault survivors deserves to be recognized at MPD. One example of his dedication is through his work on a case that began with assaults starting almost two years ago. Between 2016 and 2018, a suspect committed numerous sexual assaults in the Georgetown area of Washington, DC. During the investigation, four of the cases were linked by DNA. Detective Phillips was instrumental in bringing those cases to a close by applying for the search warrant and being the lead detective in the Grand Jury investigation. The suspect in the case



plead guilty to four sexual assault related offenses and is currently awaiting sentencing.

### SERGEANT OF THE YEAR

#### **Sergeant David Poe**

ergeant Poe, who is a veteran sergeant of the Department, perpetually avails himself to ensuring that MPD's professional requisites, objectives, standards and goals are consistently met. As a sergeant, he assumes the responsibility of cinching the fact that his peers are properly informed and are functioning above expected standards. As such, the dependability of his leadership, the efficiency of his performance, and the caliber of his integrity are attributes that lend themselves to directly guaranteeing that members of the Third District are performing duties with the utmost of diligence.



#### LIEUTENANT OF THE YEAR

# Lieutenant Jason Bagshaw

hroughout 2018, Lieutenant Jason Bagshaw greatly improved the performance of the Special Operations Division (SOD) Planning Section. Lieutenant Bagshaw was assigned to this position just in time to inherit the planning for the historic 2018 Stanley Cup Final and Stanley Cup Victory Parade, the Independence Day celebration, and the 2018 MLB All-Star Week. Bagshaw is not one to shy away from work and fully immersed himself in the position to ensure that the Planning Section put forth the best product possible. Due in large part to his meticulous work and oversight, MPD's performance during these events was phenomenal.



#### CAPTAIN OF THE YEAR

### **Captain Ralph McLean**

aptain McLean is always willing to fill in as Acting Commander, provide guidance, and teach new officials at the Metropolitan Police Academy. Captain McLean volunteers for new tasks, handles the difficult reports each month, and does so without complaint or invoking his "seniority" when asked to do things. He is constantly demonstrating true leadership and is an outstanding resource due to his incredible experience in so many positions within the Department.



#### **INSPECTOR OF THE YEAR**

#### **Inspector Michael Gottert**

nspector Michael Gottert has provided fair and consistent leadership within the Disciplinary Review Division Command over the years. Gottert is a humble leader of the Department who has demonstrated the ability to manage complex and multi-faceted processes. During this past year, Inspector Gottert also took on additional responsibilities to begin various disciplinary process improvements, including the first adverse action panel hearing training for captains and above. Gottert also handled the planning and implementation of the Family Fun Day event, which was implemented with great success and minimum disruption, despite numerous changes.



# **COMMANDER OF THE YEAR**

# **Commander Andre Wright**

ommander Andre Wright has consistently stayed focused and involved in the day-to-day issues happening within each community of the Seventh District. He has challenged his team to reduce overall crime and experimented with different ideas to help stabilize trends. He is very responsive to the community, fair to the members of the Seventh District, and a mentor to his management team, thus why he is deserving of Commander of the Year.



#### **DETECTIVE OF THE YEAR**

### **Detective Brian Wise**

etective Wise is a senior member of the Homicide Branch in which he has been assigned since 2006. During the calendar year of 2018, Detective Wise was assigned five homicide cases, and of the five cases, four were closed with arrests. A noteworthy case closed by Wise during this year includes a case in which a high school student was stabbed and killed while leaving school. After a detailed investigation, two subjects were arrested and charged with the Murder. Also, over the past three years, Detective Wise has sustained a 90 percent closure rate for the homicide cases assigned to him.





### DEBORAH ENNIS CIVILIAN EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

#### **Kelly Branthover**

elly Branthover's contribution to MPD, specifically the Homicide and Research and Analytical Services (RASB) Branches and the 2019 redistricting efforts, have been unparalleled over the past year. Her unwavering analytical and investigative support to all members and ranks of the Department has helped close cases, guide operations, and was essential in the development and deployment of the new patrol boundaries. She facilitated sessions with district officials to run through scenarios and refine proposals, then coordinated closely with DC's Office of the Chief Technology Officer (OCTO) and MPD's Information Technology Bureau to ensure proper implementation of new patrol boundaries.



#### **OFFICER OF THE YEAR**

#### **Officer Tiara Brown**

fficer Tiara Brown has consistently performed exceptionally in all areas of policing, and is the epitome of a community police officer with an outstanding work ethic. She is a caring and compassionate officer who patrols communities that are challenged by violent crime, poverty, and unemployment. Officer Brown understands the importance of community policing and how essential it is to establish relationships with the residents and businesses in her patrol service area. In her spare time, she does tremendous volunteer work because she believes in the saying, "I am my brother's keeper." Officer Brown is a professional boxer and was a member of the U.S. Olympic team



from 2009–2015, as well as a Gold medalist. The discipline she learned through her boxing career helps her be a better police officer and equips her with the understanding that she has the power to positively affect the lives of the residents she serves. Often known as "Officer Friendly", Officer Brown loves coming to work each day and honors her duty to protect and serve the residents of the District of Columbia.

### CHIEF OF POLICE SPECIAL AWARDS

### **Christie Weidner**

etween 2015 and mid-2018, Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) Agent Christie Weidner was the group supervisor for the Baltimore-Washington, DC Crime Gun Intelligence Center (CGIC). In this role, she established CGIC processes, proactively engaged with MPD to understand and meet intelligence and investigative needs, and cultivated a dedicated team of experts with an unwavering focus to reduce and prevent gun crime in DC. Christie's ability to communicate among ATF, MPD, CGIC, and other law enforcement stakeholders helped lay the foundation and vision currently in place today.



### **Anthony Hall**

n January 2018, Anthony Hall began working with the Metropolitan Police Department and the Department of Human Services to develop a pilot Pre-Arrest Diversion program to find more effective means of supporting individuals in our community. Over the past year, Anthony has hired a team of clinicians and peer specialists who together are working to connect individuals in need to behavioral health services. To date, the program has helped more than 300 individuals.



# **Kevin Wilson**

s a Senior Data Scientist at The Lab @ DC, Kevin Wilson has supported MPD on a wide variety of research, data analysis, and evaluation projects, including the Crime Gun Intelligence Center and Policing in Historical and Cultural Context training program. Across these projects, Kevin has played an instrumental role in designing and refining the research methodology, ensuring the highest level of scientific rigor and quality of our analyses. Through these and other contributions, Kevin has helped lay the foundation for MPD to invest in more datadriven, evidence-based policy and practice.



# **Rhonda Hamilton**

honda Hamilton, Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner, is dedicated to maintaining engagement with the community she serves. She has been a tireless advocate in PSA 105 and a strong steady force at building bridges and communication between members of the First District and her neighbors. She is not only present in tragic incidents, but she can be found responding to and advocating for the day to day concerns that can easily fall by the way-side. Her support and guidance has played a tremendous role in relationship building and preventing crime in her neighborhood.



#### CHIEF OF POLICE SPECIAL AWARDS

# Samantha Nolan

amantha Nolan is a long-time District resident who is very active in the community. She has held numerous roles to include: Neighborhood Watch Trainer for the entire city; member of the Chevy Chase Citizens Association Board; member of the Chief's Citizens Advisory Council; past and current 2D Citizen's Advisory Council Chair; and many other roles. She invests a great deal of her time into ensuring the needs of MPD and the community are met. She is truly an asset to this organization.



# Kristen Barden

risten Barden is the Executive Director of the Adams Morgan BID. Through her leadership, the partnership between MPD and the BID community has thrived. Ms. Barden is committed to public safety in the community and has led the efforts to have the Reimbursable Detail Officer (RDO) program in Adams Morgan. This has allowed for an enhanced police presence and promoted safety in Adams Morgan. Ms. Barden makes certain that her security team maintains an active relationship with MPD officers and managers that work in the Adams Morgan area.



# Kim Lockett

or over 30 years, Kim Lockett has immersed herself in various civic and community outreach undertakings with the hope of progressing her community. The success of Ms. Lockett's community outreach strategies have had a vast and tangible impact on residents and enhanced their lives in a meaningful and substantial way. Kim's efforts have helped bridge a gap between MPD and community members of all ages. Ms. Lockett works tirelessly and effectively in every community effort that she has organized or assisted with, and she has been an excellent civic partner.



# **Frances Penn**

s. Frances Penn currently serves as the Citizen's Advisory Council Chairperson for the Fifth District. In her role, Ms. Penn has accepted the mission of supporting Ward 5 neighborhoods along with the MPD's Fifth District. Ms. Penn has led fundraising efforts to support a number of activities and initiatives within Ward 5. In addition, Ms. Penn serves as an advocate for several Ward 5 businesses, politicians, and most importantly the Fifth District.



### **CHIEF OF POLICE SPECIAL AWARDS**

# Father Cornelius Kelechi Ejiogu

ather Ejiogu, who is best known to Ward 7 residents as Father Cornelius, serves as the Pastor of St. Luke's Catholic Church which is located at 4925 East Capitol Street, SE, Washington D.C. Under his leadership, his parishioners deliver service to those who are less privileged, who are outcast, and who are troubled. He has supported Sixth District events, from the hosting of PSA meetings to hosting holiday gatherings for children and seniors. Father Ejogu is always quick to open the church doors with a smile.



# Professors Bernard Demczuk and Sharita Thompson

# **Dean Marilyn Hamilton**

# Dr. Sandra Jowers-Barber

# NMAAHC Leadership

UDC professors Demczuk and Thompson have made a substantial contribution to MPD through their work developing an innovative program, touring members of the MPD through the National Museum of African American History and Culture (NMAAHC). Their museum tours benefitted both the Department and residents of the District as MPD members learned about historical interactions between law enforcement and minority communities. Launched in 2018, over 2,300 members have already completed the training, with the remainder of MPD personnel to complete the training during 2019. The course expanded on MPD's existing trainings focused on interactions between law enforcement and minority communities, implicit bias, and cultural sensitivity. Using the NMAAHC as a blueprint for their course, Demczuk and Thompson imparted a detailed knowledge of the local community with historical context thereby strengthening service for residents and visitors.

Since the program's inception, MPD and the academy have received countless communications from other police departments across the country. From Seattle to Pittsburgh, police departments have requested information on what MPD is teaching and how the partnerships were initiated. The program's success could not have taken place without strong leadership and collaboration from Dean Marilyn Hamilton, UDC Community College and Dr. Sandra Jowers-Barber both of whom were instrumental in the program's inception. Director Lonnie Bunch and Deputy Director Kinshasha Holman Conwill graciously provide access to the NMAAHC to set stage for this meaningful educational experience.



#### **CHIEF OF POLICE SPECIAL AWARD**

### **Adrian Richardson**

r. Adrian Richardson is the Supervisor of the GPS Electronic Monitoring/ Abscondence Unit for the Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services, and has assisted detectives in countless criminal investigations. Mr. Richardson routinely answers the call from MPD members when he is off duty, on days off and even on vacation. Mr. Richardson is a valuable partner in helping MPD fulfill its mission. It is our privilege to recognize and honor him with this award.

### **Rosa Brooks**

osa Brooks has made a significant contribution to MPD by providing critical support through the Police for Tomorrow program. Through her leadership, select members of the Department meet monthly to explore issues crucial to effectively serve the community. Directed by Professor Rosa Brooks and other professors, fellows attend a threehour workshop or participate in a community engagement activity each month. It provides police officers and civilian personnel the ability to grow professionally by engaging in community projects, and attending community-focused workshops on cutting edge policing issues.



# Dr. Tanya Hinds

s a dedicated and passionate member of the District's Multi-Disciplinary Team on Child Abuse and Neglect, Dr. Hinds examines children at Children's National Hospital who are suspected to be victims of physical or sexual abuse. Once, often twice a month since 2005, Dr. Hinds has participated in a Child Physical Abuse Multidisciplinary Case Review in which she addresses some of MPD's Youth and Family Services Division's most serious physical abuse cases. Her specific knowledge on cases and explanation of the causation of injuries is invaluable when investigating maltreatment. Often, our most serious baby cases rely heavily on her succinct and in-depth analysis



of the child's injuries. Her commitment to cases does not end with simply assessing their initial injury. She tirelessly follows-up with victims, ensure their injuries and illness are fully treated and safety measures are in place to help ensure the child's medical needs are met. Without her assistance, many of our most vulnerable victims would be left voiceless.

### CHIEF OF POLICE SPECIAL AWARD

# Michael Rothermund

ichael Rothermund serves as the Assistant Special Agent in Charge at the Drug Enforcement Administration Washington Division Office. Mr. Rothermund oversees the Federal Cross Border Task Force that combines members of the DEA, MPD, PG County and Montgomery County.

Mr. Rothermund has proved to be an outstanding partner with MPD supplying resources and assistance in combating violent crime and drug trafficking in Washington D.C. Through his leadership, MPD and the DEA have formed a strong bond that will continue into the foreseeable future.



# **Tom Chittum**

om Chittum was the Special Agent in Charge of the Washington Division Office of the ATF during 2018. Last year, he oversaw three separate federal task force groups with members from the ATF and MPD who were focused on the illegal possession and trafficking of illegal firearms in the District of Columbia. Additionally, the Task Forces assisted in an operation and case that led to one of the largest seizures of heroin ever in Washington D.C. and the arrest of the suspects who were dealing in the heroin and selling illegal firearms in the 6th District.



# **SPECIAL THANKS**

The Metropolitan Police Department extends a special thank you to THEARC for the use of its magnificent facility to host our Annual Awards Ceremony.

> Food Compliments of: Washington, DC Police Foundation Mission Barbecue

