Annual Awards Ceremony

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2020

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

TACTICAL TRAINING CENTER
4665 Blue Plains Drive, SW | Washington, DC

EVENT STARTS AT 4 PM

WATCH LIVE AT bit.ly/MPDAwards2020
In 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.

Welcome to the Twentieth 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.

Welcome Remarks/Host ...................... Dustin Sternbeck Metropolitan Police Department
Presentation of Colors ....................... MPD Honor Guard
National Anthem ........................... Sergeant Alexia Austin-Love
Invocation ...................................... Monsignor Salvatore Criscuolo

Presentation of Awards

- Sworn Bureau Employees of the Year
- Crime Suppression Team Award
- District Detectives of the Year
- Youth Division Detective of the Year
- SAU/SIB Detective of the Year
- Homicide Detective of the Year
- Detective of the Year
- Joseph Pozell Reserve Member of the Year
- School Resource Officer of the Year
- NS1D Officer of the Year
- Special Operations Division Officer of the Year
- Amin Muslim Civilian Manager Employee of the Year
- Sergeant of the Year
- Lieutenants of the Year
- Captain of the Year
- Inspector of the Year
- Commander of the Year
- Crime Reduction Award
- Civilian Bureau Employees of the Year
- Deborah Ennis Civilian Employee of the Year
- Citizen of the Year
- Sons of the American Revolution Law Enforcement Commendation Medal
- District Officers of the Year
- Patrol Services Area of the Year
- Officer of the Year
- Chief of Police Special Awards

Closing Remarks ........................... Chief Peter Newsham
Benediction .................................. Monsignor Salvatore Criscuolo
In 2019, Officer Iatezaz Tariq, along with several members from the Gun Recovery Unit in the Narcotics Investigative Services Division, worked tirelessly on solving social media investigations that resulted in the recovery of over 70 illegal firearms. Officer Tariq worked on- and off-duty on these investigations. On multiple occasions while off-duty, he discovered and determined the location of multiple suspects with illegal firearms and never hesitated to spring into action to recover the guns and apprehend those suspects. Through Officer Tariq’s efforts, he has helped reduce the number of violent gun crimes in our city. His commitment to saving lives and recovering illegal firearms from our streets is commended.

As part of the implementation of the requirements of the NEAR Act, the Body Worn Camera (BWC) team has been conducting a review of all videos relating to citizens and traffic stops. Officer Meredith Bush has led the effort by reviewing thousands of files and categorizing them properly so that they are retained in accordance with Department policy and the NEAR Act requirements. While trained in the use of BWC as an officer, Officer Bush has gone beyond this skillset to learn and master the evidence.com platform in order to perform these important functions.

Over the past three years, Officer Kevin Johnson, Jr. has been the lead officer in strengthening MPD’s relationship with the Islamic community in the District. This took on renewed urgency in 2019 in the aftermath of the Christchurch shooting, as anti-Islamic incidents spiked across the US. Officer Johnson’s efforts allowed MPD officers to visit and build relationships and trust among all the Islamic mosques and institutions within the District. Leaders in the Muslim and African communities have noted that his work and presence is important and viewed as a significant step towards reducing the fears of the community.

Senior Sergeant Pollock works tirelessly to ensure the Internal Affairs Bureau functions smoothly and efficiently. Sr. Sgt. Pollock served the Metropolitan Police Department for over 30 years. Most recently, she was a sergeant for 12 years and returned as a senior police sergeant to serve in the Internal Affairs Bureau’s administrative office. She leads and mentors her subordinates to ensure they possess the skills and abilities to complete assigned tasks and perform job functions at a satisfactory level. Sr. Sgt. Pollock is a model employee and an invaluable asset to the Internal Affairs Bureau and the Metropolitan Police Department.

Lieutenant Jason Bagshaw is the Homeland Security Bureau/Special Operations Division’s “MVP.” Lt. Bagshaw led the planning efforts for numerous large-scale events and demonstrations in 2019, which included the State of the Union Address, the Fourth of July Parade, and the Salute to America Celebration. Lt. Bagshaw also spearheaded the planning efforts for the historic 2020 MLB World Series games and the 2020 MLB World Series victory parade. Lt. Bagshaw is a role model for all lieutenants to follow.
In 2019, the 4D Crime Suppression Team’s (CST’s) hard work resulted in the recovery of 106 guns, the arrests of many violent offenders, the execution of 50 search warrants, and the seizure of $113,553.67 for civil forfeiture. The professionalism of the team is further exemplified by the fact that none of the officers received any sustained citizen complaints during the year. The 4D CST helped the Fourth District finish 2019 with an 18% reduction in violent crime.

**Patrol Services North**

**Sergeant Christopher Miller**

In 2019, Sergeant Christopher Miller did a tremendous job leading the Fourth District’s administrative office. Miller managed proper scheduling, notifications, and vehicle maintenance operations exceptionally well. Because of his dedication to duty, the Fourth District’s operations ran smoothly and its members were productive. Last year, the overall success of the Fourth District was due to Miller’s efforts to ensure facility issues were addressed and the fleet was operational.

**Lieutenant Kevin Harding**

Lieutenant Kevin Harding is an exceptional manager and the primary liaison between Patrol Services South and the First, Sixth, and Seventh Districts. He identified gaps with newly promoted lieutenants and administrative investigations. He took the lead with “on-boarding” newly assigned sergeants and lieutenants. Lieutenant Harding mentors and develops subordinates, peers, and supervisors. He works countless hours without complaint, objection, or additional compensation. Despite his overwhelming workload, he always finds time to help others.

**Sergeant Raymond Chambers**

Sergeant Raymond Chambers of the Tactical Training Center has demonstrated outstanding leadership, innovation, dedication, sacrifice and commitment to the members of the Metropolitan Police Department, its law enforcement officer partners, and District of Columbia residents. Sergeant Chambers designs all of the lesson plans and scenarios for MPD’s Active Threat Training and has continued to improve the training to meet all current and developing threats.
**DISTRICT DETECTIVES OF THE YEAR**

**FIRST DISTRICT**

**Detective Paul Heithoff**

Detective Paul Heithoff has a superior work ethic and unwavering commitment to the community. His high case closure rate is due, in part, to the fact that he does not shy away from complex cases. He has distinguished himself as a consummate professional and is prompt in his response to calls for assistance and presence on the scene, all while showing tact and diplomacy in dealing with witnesses and colleagues. He has a proven ability to quickly ascertain relevant facts and conduct timely follow-up investigations. Combining old-fashioned police work with technical skills not only makes him highly successful but commands the respect and admiration of his peers and supervisors.

**SECOND DISTRICT**

**Detective Dwight Jones**

On Friday, April 26, 2019 at 2:57 pm, Second District members responded to the 1700 block of Connecticut Avenue, NW, in reference to a robbery of an establishment. Detective Dwight Jones interviewed multiple witnesses who stated that four suspects entered a consignment store, smashed several glass cases and snatched multiple high-end purses before fleeing the scene. Detective Jones obtained video footage from the incident and coordinated its release on MPD’s official YouTube channel in an attempt to identify the suspects. He was able to secure four arrest warrants related to this case; each of the suspects was apprehended. This is just one example of Detective Jones’ outstanding work and his work ethic and dedication to the Second District.

**THIRD DISTRICT**

**Detective James Gamble**

Third District Detective James Gamble consistently works all available leads in his violent crime cases, and closes his cases quickly because he is diligent in his follow-up and documentation. In 2019, Detective Gamble excelled at conducting effective follow-up investigations, obtaining successful prosecutions, documenting all case progression fully, as well as suspending/closing cases appropriately. Detective Gamble provides his teammates with a positive example of effective case management while maintaining his ability to be an aggressive investigator.

**FOURTH DISTRICT**

**Detective John Pugh**

Detective John Pugh has shown outstanding performance and dedication to duty while serving as a Detective within the Fourth District Detectives Section. Over the course of 2019, Detective Pugh closed 69 burglaries, two armed robberies, two unarmed robberies, two aggravated assaults, and one assault with a dangerous weapon. All cases were closed with arrests. One arrest of note resulted in the closure of 33 burglaries in the District of Columbia. Detective Pugh is highly respected by both his peers and supervisors alike. He maintains the highest standards of professionalism in all that he does.

**FIFTH DISTRICT**

**Detective Diane Davis**

In 2019, Detective Davis closed more than 20 assault with a dangerous weapon cases, seven robberies, and assisted other detectives in the Fifth District on a number of cases. Detective Davis has also achieved several high profile closures. After a long year, Detective Davis set herself apart from her colleagues with her relentless pursuit of justice. She does not stop working a lead until it is exhausted and she has become a go-to Detective in the Fifth District for high-priority cases. Detective Davis continues to be a team player and is a vital member of the Fifth District’s Detective Unit.

**SIXTH DISTRICT**

**Detective Armstrong Adams**

Detective Armstrong Adams has shown diligent and relentless fervor in his thorough investigation of all cases assigned to him. Throughout this past year, Detective Adams’ contribution to the Sixth District Detective’s Unit has proven to be integral. Detective Adams tirelessly works each case assigned to him while also assisting detectives on his shift. He has earned the respect of the officials within the 6D Detectives Office, Sixth District patrol and upper management in the Investigative Services Bureau. As a detective, he has established a strong foundation and steadfast relationship with the Office of the Attorney General and US Attorney’s Office, allowing him to oversee his cases to the end.
Detective Konrad Olszak

Detective Konrad Olszak utilized every resource and tool within the Criminal Investigations Division to investigate violent crime and robberies in the Seventh District. Due to his hard work and diligence, he had the highest closure rate of robberies in the 7D Criminal Investigations Division in 2019. One case in particular included the arrest of an individual responsible for a string of armed robberies connected to social media apps. His dedication to the cases allowed him to identify the individual, and prevented any future people from becoming victim to this crime.

Detective Sarah Buc

In 2019, Detective Sarah Buc worked with management and staff at the Metropolitan Police Academy (MPA) to develop a groundbreaking training to help prepare patrol officers for interaction with child victims, which will be used for the 2020 Professional Development Training at the MPA. In her squad, Detective Buc coordinates schedules for immediate case responses, including cases which may involve more than one detective, and takes an active role in making sure that victims’ needs are met. Detective Buc guides newer investigators, works on investigative teams with more seasoned detectives, and developed an on-boarding training and handbook for new investigators in the Physical and Sexual Abuse Branch.

Detective Lenard Jenkins

In 2019, Detective Lenard Jenkins worked as a detective within the Sexual Assault Unit, and closed two First Degree Sexual Abuse/Burglary One Stranger cases. In each case, Detective Jenkins identified and arrested suspects within 96 hours of the initial report. His determination, diligence, and strong investigative skills brought swift justice to the citizens of Washington, DC.

Detective James Wilson

Detective James Wilson closed five homicide cases assigned to him in 2019, finishing the year with a 100 percent UCR closure rate. One of the homicides included a high-profile case in which a teenager was killed in broad daylight. Detective Wilson worked tirelessly in an effort to bring this case, and all of his other cases, to closure as swiftly as possible. His dedication to the families of those killed in the District does not go unrecognized.

Detective Jeffrey Weber

During 2019, Detective Jeffrey Weber was assigned to the Criminal Investigations Division (CID)/Homicide Branch - Major/Cold Case Squad, where he handled challenging assignments and complex investigations on a regular basis. During 2019, Det. Weber closed numerous homicide cases, including a triple murder in the first few weeks of January. As a result of his exhaustive investigation, Detective Weber was able to identify, arrest and charge a suspect, who is currently pending trial. In July 2019, Det. Weber received a Commanding Officers Commendation for his work on this case and in September, 2019, he received an Award for Public Service from the Department of Justice, United States Attorney’s Office. Detective Weber is a skilled investigator whose strong work ethic and outstanding performance has helped MPD provide justice and service to the residents of Washington, DC.
Officer Carmen Mirabile

Officer Carmen Mirabile took on an integral and challenging role in 2019 by acting as the Reserve Corps Academy Training Officer and Field Training Coordinator. Reserve Officer Mirabile took on the lead role in training Reserve Recruits in classroom instruction at MPA, providing essential support to Level II Reserve Officers as they navigate the field training program and certification process. Beyond his patrol duties as a Reserve Officer, he worked in concert with patrol leads to ensure that the newest Reserve Officers are on track to successfully meet and complete these milestones.

School Resource Officer Devin Smith

School Resource Officer (SRO) Devin Smith joined the School Safety Division (SSD) family in 2015 and was assigned to the Seventh District Schools. He currently leads the Seventh District SSD Units for mostly custody orders, mediations, arrests, investigations and information intelligence gathering on Juveniles and Young Adults. Officer Smith works closely with Metro Transit Police, DC Public Schools Police, PG County Police and MPD Detectives, earning him numerous awards including the Achievement Award from the Investigative Services Bureau for the 2019 Summer Crime Initiative and the title of Seventh District SSD District Intelligence Officer. He identified and utilized community-based methods of curbing deviant behavior in youths before incidents escalate, all the while gaining the respect of the students in the schools where he works.

Officer Justin Rogers

As part of the Gun Recovery Unit (GRU), Officer Justin Rogers is a valuable member of the Narcotics and Special Investigations Division. He has demonstrated an unyielding commitment to the Metropolitan Police Department and to the citizens of the District of Columbia, and often assumes leadership roles in street operations. Since joining the GRU, Officer Rogers has made at least 50 firearms-related arrests and obtained 15 firearms-related search warrants. Beyond his demonstrated initiative, he has proven himself to be a team player by assisting or supporting efforts related to the seizure of at least another 200 firearms.

Officer Stuart Jewell

Officer Stuart Jewell and his K9 Partner Rocky are one of the Special Operations Division’s most popular and versatile teams. They often asked to present at various schools, attend various community meetings to help explain the value of canines to the Department. This dynamic duo has been featured on MPD’s media pages working hard at the World Series, patrolling during the WNBA championships, or providing trick-or-treating tips to children. The team is responsible for apprehending armed suspects and recovering multiple weapons as they work together on various deployments through the District. Their work enhances community relations while providing a sense of security for the citizens and visitors of the District of Columbia.
Tyria Fields

Tyria Fields is currently the director of the Victim Services Branch. With over 27 years in the victim services profession, Tyria Fields exhibits a keen understanding of the profession of victim services, and took on many new challenges in 2019. With her experience and leadership abilities, she works to ensure the Department is a pioneering law enforcement agency in terms of victim services.

Sergeant Michael Bialeski

Sergeant Michael Bialeski is currently working in the Third District. He is an exemplary sergeant who demonstrates superior knowledge of MPD rules, regulations, and procedures all while exercising an excellent work ethic. Sergeant Bialeski has dedicated himself to public safety and to guiding his subordinates. They know that they can rely on him for help when they need it, and that he will motivate them to excel. Following an injury to the Crime Suppression Team and Mountain Bike officials, Sergeant Bialeski readily volunteered to help supervise these units, in addition to his regular PSA responsibilities. Beyond his duties as a district sergeant, Bialeski teaches a sergeant class at the Metropolitan Police Academy to newly promoted sergeants.

Lieutenant Lashay Makal

In 2019, Lieutenant Lashay Makal was the manager in charge of the GRU and led a team of more than 30 officers and four sergeants on missions recovering illegal firearms. Lieutenant Makal established new techniques and procedures that advanced the way GRU operates in today’s environment. This includes new investigations into social media, violent crews, and groups, as well as the introduction of a partnership with GRU and the Special Operation Division’s Canine Unit. Beyond these initiatives, Lieutenant Makal spearheaded a project that introduced a partnership with the Federal Bureau of Investigation. This new partnership embedded FBI Special Agents in GRU on daily operations to help strengthen Federal Prosecutions of felons with illegal firearms. The program was very successful and it will continue to be used in gun recovery efforts in the future.

Captain James Boteler

Captain James Boteler is assigned to the Seventh Police District as the Sector-3 Patrol Manager, Administrative Office Manager, Special Mission Unit Manager, and Executive Officer. He fulfills each of these roles with an exuberant command presence, dignity, tact and prudence. Captain Boteler was one of the six managers selected for the coveted 2019 Summer Crime Initiative (SCI). As the SCI Captain, Boteler was responsible for the Washington Highlands neighborhood, which encompassed a geographic area historically known to be one of the most violent neighborhoods within the city. He was so effective as SCI manager, he was subsequently selected to be one of the Fall Crime Initiative managers. Captain Boteler has forged many positive relationships with traditional and non-traditional partners. He continuously improves the efficiency of the District and constantly drives his team members toward the path of success. Captain Boteler is a third-generation legacy member of this great agency. He has made his mark on the District, this Department and our city for the better, and he continues to do so every single day.
Inspector Kimberly Dickerson

Inspector Kimberly Dickerson has been an inspector for over three years, and is a senior inspector in MPD’s Internal Affairs Division (IAD). Having previously served as the Director or the IAD, Dickerson took on a new challenge when she agreed to step into the role of Director of the Risk Management Division (RMD). A strong team leader who seeks to further the understanding of those with less experience, Inspector Dickerson has proven herself to be instrumental in the success of the department. She has been influential in shaping the next generation of MPD leaders. As the director of RMD she has had to learn quickly the operations of seven different units, each with their own functions and products, and work to maximize the efficiency of each unit, and has taken these responsibilities on with self-confidence.

Commander William FitzGerald

This past June marked the fifth anniversary of William FitzGerald’s service as the Commander of the Fifth District. During his tenure, he has set the benchmark in addressing violent crime in the District of Columbia through innovative methods of patrol. Colleagues frequently look to Commander FitzGerald for insight and ideas, as he is exemplary at mentoring and training younger officers and his leadership abilities have taken him far in the Department. In addition to the citywide community event during the holidays, the Fifth District held their very own “Shop with a Cop” for children in the district, which is another successful initiative on behalf of Commander FitzGerald.

Seventh District

The Seventh District has the distinct honor of having the highest overall crime reduction of all seven police districts for the second year in a row. During 2019, the Seventh District achieved a 14 percent overall reduction in crime, which included an 11 percent reduction in violent crime and 15 percent reduction in property crime. The Seventh District experienced reductions in nearly every category of crime, including a one percent reduction in Assaults and a Dangerous Weapon, an 11 percent reduction in Robberies, a 29 percent reduction in Burglaries and a 10 percent reduction in Motor Vehicle Thefts. The efforts of each and every member of the Seventh District contributed to the outstanding reductions and made the Seventh District a safer place to live and visit.
Phyllis Gilbert

Mrs. Gilbert’s professional knowledge, work ethic and dedication to the goals of the Corporate Support Bureau far exceed expectations. She is consistently recognized for her knowledge, attention to detail, and professional conduct. Mrs. Gilbert now oversees and monitors numerous procurement items for the Corporate Support Bureau (CSB) in PASS, serves as the CSB monitor of ALL PASS items associated with CSB, and provides leadership with detailed background and status reports which have become vital to the success of numerous projects. Her professionalism and dedication is noticeable to all who work around her.

Patricia Cambel

Patricia Cambel has consistently exceeded expectations as a dedicated member of the Executive Office of the Chief of Police. Patricia joined the Metropolitan Police Department in June of 2008 and maintains responsibility of several programmatic areas, ensuring all operations run smoothly. Colleagues around MPD know Patricia to be helpful, resourceful, and dedicated to the mission and operations of the Department.

Lauren Kelly

Lauren Kelly is a valued member of the Metropolitan Police Department. As a Supervisory Criminal Research Specialist, her criminal background reports are thorough and comprehensive. Kelly always goes above and beyond in researching a subject’s social media profile. Her expertise in social media investigations/research was instrumental in educating new District Intelligence Officers in conducting social media research. Under Lauren’s mentorship, the Investigative Support Section has taken on new projects and collaborated with different units to help identify subjects observed on social media displaying illegal firearms and narcotics. This collaboration between units has led to increased partnership and information sharing among the various MPD units.

Keith Peterson

Keith Peterson agreed to take over the TACIS system, one of the core systems for the Office of the Chief Financial Officer and MPD as it maintains time and attendance, leave balances, and integrations with payroll. Within the first two weeks, Mr. Peterson displayed great efficiency and dedication. His efforts continue today where he is working towards documentation of this complex system and working with the team to plan the necessary upgrades. His commitment to the task resulted in a very smooth handover from the outgoing personnel and has resulted in a better and more efficient service with TACIS for the Department.

Carnelia Austin

Carnelia Austin has been a member of the Internal Affairs Bureau for the past 13 years and has served the DC government for over 32 years. She is a model employee and very knowledgeable of the functions of the administrative office of the Internal Affairs Bureau. Ms. Austin not only takes personal responsibility for her own work, but she also ensures that others are reminded of the completion of their work as well. She is very pleasant to work with and an invaluable asset to the Metropolitan Police Department.

Mary Jones

Mary Jones is a Staff Assistant at the Youth and Family Services Division who has organized and facilitated several successful outreach events throughout the year. These events include Missing in DC Day, Youth and Family Services Division Lunch with a Cop, Mural Refurbishment at Youth and Family Services Division, and turkey dinner giveaways during Thanksgiving. Ms. Jones goes beyond her regular tasks to provide for the community.
CIVILIAN BUREAU EMPLOYEES OF THE YEAR

PATROL SERVICES NORTH

Calandra Morgan

Ms. Calandra Morgan serves as a staff assistant at the Third District. When she first came into the position, she very quickly learned multiple job descriptions that would help to benefit the team in 3D. She jumped in head first and has excelled ever since. Ms. Morgan is very thorough in her review of documents and quickly identifies and addresses deficiencies in any report submitted to her. Ms. Morgan has a great attitude and can be counted on for assisting others in the admin office, even if it is outside of her duties. She is a pleasure to work with and she adds great value to the team.

PATROL SERVICES SOUTH

Crystal Griffin-Williams

Ms. Griffin-Williams exemplifies professionalism and dedication as she carries out her duties as a key component of the Seventh District Team, as the Staff Assistant in the office of Seventh District Commander Andre Wright. Ms. Griffin-Williams can be best described as the 7D gatekeeper when it comes to explaining her important role in managing Commander Wright's office. She has a pleasant and calming demeanor and performs her assigned tasks quickly and efficiently, with minimal supervision, without hesitation or complaint. She is a prime example of what is expected of a model civilian employee for this department.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT BUREAU

Ashley Whittington

Ashley Whittington has successfully led the HR Operations team on a daily basis. She has done a great job communicating the agency’s mission keeping the team focused on the Department’s goals. She is an excellent role model for her colleagues and is respected and trusted by her co-workers. When providing service, Ashley goes above and beyond for both internal and external customers. Ashley has served as the Human Resources Director’s subject matter expert on a variety of topics and she is diligent in providing feedback, eliminating roadblocks, and nurturing the operations team.

THE DEBORAH ENNIS CIVILIAN EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE

Errick Edwards

Errick Edwards is an Audio Visual Specialist in the Office of Communications who is responsible for much of the video content released by the Department. In addition to providing support in the editing of CID videos, Mr. Edwards works tirelessly developing original and dynamic graphic content on behalf of the agency. His videos have helped capture historical moments for the Metropolitan Police Department and its employees from behind a camera.

CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

Betty Diggs

Betty Diggs is native Washingtonian, a community activist, and a longtime resident of East River Heights in PSA 603. In 2019 she started the Porch Patrol Program, a community policing initiative where residents sitting on their porch stoops can engage with Sixth District officers to discuss policing strategies and tactics, share information on crime, and just have regular conversations about football or old days in DC. Once the program was implemented, Ms. Diggs served as the program coordinator by providing the PSA lieutenant with the list of neighbors who wanted to participate in the program, and by the end of the season, she had enlisted over twenty neighbors to participate. The success of the program spread to the adjoining neighborhood of Meadow Green in the Sixth District who requested to begin Porch Patrol the summer of 2020.
**THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION
LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMENDATION AWARD**

**THIRD DISTRICT**

**Officers Kfir Gamliel and Joseph Young**

On July 14, 2019, Third District Officers Kfir Gamliel and Joseph Young responded to an accident where they found an unconscious pedestrian under a vehicle. After promptly calling for DCFEMS to arrive, Officer Young used a jack to lift the vehicle and pull the pedestrian out from underneath it. Officer Gamliel arrived shortly after, realized the pedestrian was not breathing, and was able to resuscitate the victim using CPR and keep him breathing until DCFEMS arrived on the scene and took over the medical needs of the victim. Based on their dedication and quick action, Officers Young and Gamliel were able to remove a victim from harm, and keep him alive for further medical attention.

**FIRST DISTRICT**

**Officer David Naples**

Officer David Naples is the senior member of the First District’s Robbery Suppression Team. As the informal leader of the team, Officer Naples regularly imparts his knowledge and experience on fellow team members, as well as patrol officers that are eager to learn. Officer Naples has built relationships with partner agencies and other departmental units throughout the year. Officer Naples has personally closed dozens of cases, and has worked closely with detectives to recover video evidence and identify suspects, leading to the closure of even more cases.

**SECOND DISTRICT**

**Officer Brian Murray**

As part of the Second District Crime Suppression Team, Officer Brian Murray identified and arrested numerous theft from auto suspects this past year. In January of 2019, Officer Murray told his peers, “I know there is more to all these thefts from autos. This has to be bigger.” Over the next 12 months, Officer Murray set out to combat the growing theft from auto problem facing the city and the National Capital Region. Throughout 2019, Officer Murray worked closely with the US Attorney’s Office to prosecute theft from auto suspects.

**THIRD DISTRICT**

**Officer David Wilks**

Officer David Wilks is an excellent training officer who takes great care to ensure that his trainees are knowledgeable and become productive members of the Department. When he is not training, his encyclopedic knowledge of the individuals in his Patrol Service Area (PSA) and their criminal histories have led to multiple arrest warrants and he has assisted in numerous closures of violent crimes. Officer Wilks has exhibited the type of commitment to his profession that the Metropolitan Police Department commends. He exhibits a positive attitude, a strong work ethic, and self-initiative. His professionalism and dedication to duty are notable and worthy of the Third District Officer of the Year award.

OFFICER DAVID JARBOE

OFFICER DAVID JARBOE POSsesses the integrity, knowledge, and aptitude needed to excel in this profession. On occasion, Officer Jarboe serves as Acting Sergeant where he makes extremely well thought-out decisions. When he goes on vacation or leave, residents constantly ask his peers, “Where’s Jarboe?” Officer Jarboe is indispensable and loved by the residents of PSA 603, the officers he trains, and by his supervisors. Officer Jarboe’s exceptional skills, knowledge, and abilities, combined with his strong work ethic and instincts, make him an outstanding police officer.

OFFICER ARTHUR BROWN

OFFICER ARTHUR BROWN is deserving of the Seventh District Officer of the Year award for his impressive work with the community as a member of the Seventh District Community Outreach Team. During Officer Brown’s time as a member of the unit, he has become a critical component to the unit’s overall success. Officer Brown is an accomplished barber who has used his passion to gain the trust of the community that he serves by offering free haircuts on and off-duty to community members as a way of showing his care and concern for their well-being. Officer Brown’s steadfast commitment to serving children in the community make him an outstanding candidate for the Seventh District Officer of the Year award.

PSA 707

PSA 707 had the largest decrease in crime among all the Seventh District PSAs, and doubled the overall crime reduction rate when compared to the District as a whole. Over the course of 2019, PSA 707 reduced the homicide rate in half from 2018, and violent crime experienced an overall reduction of 39 percent. By the end of the year, all reported District Crime Rate offenses experienced a total reduction of 30 percent from 2018. Participating in both the Summer and Fall Crime Initiatives, the officers went above and beyond in implementing the strategies devised by the district managers, and were a strong contributor to the overall success of both initiatives.
OFFICER OF THE YEAR

SIXTH DISTRICT

Officer Frantz Fulcher

Community Outreach Officer Frantz Fulcher epitomizes the spirit of community policing. Officer Fulcher participates in many community events, has great rapport with community members, and builds a good public image of MPD. He handles everyday tasks with vigor, and his eagerness to give back to the community is a living example of the Department’s motto, “We are here to Help.” He is an outstanding officer who shows great professionalism, compassion, and knowledge in his regular interaction with the community.

Yousef Elmani

On October 31, 2019, Yousef Elmani’s quick thinking and decisive actions helped MPD members arrest a theft suspect who assaulted an officer. While responding to a theft in progress call, the responding sergeant was struck by a suspect. A struggle ensued and, when the sergeant was struck again, Mr. Elmani tackled the suspect, giving the sergeant time to break free. Mr. Elmani was then assaulted by the suspect before the sergeant was able to deploy less lethal, defensive tactics in an attempt to affect an arrest. With the help of Mr. Elmani, MPD was able to apprehend the suspect and prevent any further serious injury to the sergeant and bystanders.

Ashan Benedict

Ashan Benedict is the Special Agent in Charge (SAC) of the Washington Field Division of the Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF). SAC Benedict worked closely with MPD to target and eliminate illegal firearms and firearms traffickers in the city and beyond. SAC Benedict took this partnership and expanded the ATF’s role in directly dealing with and targeting the most violent offenders in our City, and through this effort ATF and MPD were able to specifically target and solve numerous violent crimes, including homicides. SAC Benedict has gone on to take the responsibility and commitment to continue and expand these efforts in 2020 to ensure our city is safe.

Dr. Jenifer Smith

Dr. Jenifer Smith is the Director of the Department of Forensic Science (DFS). Since her appointment to DFS, MPD has benefited from strengthened communication and collaboration. Dr. Smith and her staff have consistently exceeded expectations in conducting and delivering the highest quality testing and results to our detectives. Under her leadership, DFS has been a partner with MPD on many initiatives such as the Crime Gun Intelligence Center, which has greatly reduced the amount of time it takes to examine firearms evidence. This service enables MPD detectives to efficiently investigate violent crimes in DC.
Quincy Booth

Quincy Booth is the Director of the District of Columbia Department of Corrections. Through his strong leadership and employee engagement, he has shifted the department’s culture to a more customer/client focused operation aimed at meeting the needs of internal and external stakeholders. Thanks to his leadership, MPD has developed a strong working relationship with the DOC as a partner in rehabilitating offenders in our communities and keeping the District of Columbia safe for all of its citizens.

Clinton Lacey

As the Director of the Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services, Clinton Lacey has worked tirelessly to redefine the basic pillars of juvenile justice. He has focused on a culturally relevant, healing-centered approach to youth rehabilitation instead of incarceration. His efforts have led to reduced detention populations and his focus on the credible messenger program has significantly helped youth in DC from reoffending.

Irwin Royster

Irwin Royster has over 25 years of experience in community engagement, organizing, and advocacy. As the Director for Community Engagement and Partnerships for East of the River Family Strengthening Collaborative, Mr. Royster is a major catalyst in developing and instituting services for Ward 7 residents that helps to foster positive relationships between the community, law enforcement, and other DC government agencies. Mr. Royster, along with his team of outreach specialists, have set up informational booths throughout Ward 7 to help educate residents on financial support, health & wellness, senior living, substance abuse and mental health services with direct links to resources. Mr. Royster’s efforts help to create healthy families and thriving communities and create positive connections with local governments for a safer and healthier place to live and work.

Robert Bornstein

In 2019 MPD partnered with the United States Attorney’s Office (USAO) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) on a project designed to target and prosecute convicted felons in US Federal Court who were in possession of illegal firearms. Assistant Special Agent in Charge Robert Bornstein worked closely with MPD and headed up the Felon in Possession Initiative (FIP), which embeds FBI agents with members of MPD’s Narcotics and Special Investigations Division (NSID) and the Gun Recovery Unit (GRU) on daily activities to allow FBI agents to establish themselves in the early development of the cases and the prosecution. As of January 1, 2020, the FIP project has resulted in 118 indictments that have led to 46 guilty pleas or verdicts and 27 defendants who have been sentenced to lengthy prison sentences in Federal Facilities. Through ASAC Bornstein’s dedication and partnership, he has helped make the District of Columbia safer for its citizens and visitors.

Gregory Dean

Chief Gregory Dean oversaw the 2,100-member DC Fire & Emergency Medical Services Department (DCFEMS) and worked closely with MPD on a daily basis. His accomplishments include implementing Right Care, Right Now; which improves patient outcomes by identifying the most appropriate and responsible path of care for the patients that call for help. Chief Dean also oversaw the District’s cardiac arrest survival rate and bystander participation which includes over 75,000 people trained in the Department’s Hands on Hearts CPR training program. Chief Dean partnered closely with MPD through community outreach events including Beat the Streets, and worked alongside MPD to ensure strong relationships and bonds with community members. We thank Chief Dean for his many years of dedicated service and wish him well on his recent retirement. He will be greatly missed!

Karima Holmes

The Office of Unified Communications (OUC) Director, Karima Holmes, is committed to ensuring that OUC provides MPD with the proper assistance for first responders to communicate effectively while assisting residents and millions of visitors in the District of Columbia. Director Holmes finds innovative ways to improve MPD operations through updated technological advancements that enables first responders and other MPD members to effectively do their job. Director Holmes has supported MPD community events by deploying her personnel teams to numerous events. Her outstanding contribution to MPD’s mission is the “life-line” for our citizens and our Department.
In 2019, the Gun Recovery Unit (GRU) recovered 589 firearms, which is the largest recovery for the unit since its inception in 2007. The GRU also presented 465 firearms cases before the United States Attorney in 2019, which resulted in 88 percent of those cases continuing through the legal process for prosecution. Additionally in 2019, the Gun Recovery Unit executed well over 130 search warrants, which included GRU cases, and select Criminal Investigations Division 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. The members of the GRU work tirelessly each day, under very difficult circumstances, to carry out their mission and they continue to do so in a professional, respectful and compassionate manner.

The Metropolitan Police Department extends a special thank you all of our members for your hard work and dedication.