

District of Columbia

Senior Citizens Police Academy

*A program of the Metropolitan Police Department's Citizens Partnership Institute
In conjunction with the DC Office on Aging*

Crime Prevention

Partnerships

Neighborhood Problem Solving

Our senior citizens provide the District of Columbia with a wealth of information and experience that can enrich our efforts to create a safer and healthier city. To better utilize this important resource, the Metropolitan Police Department, in conjunction with the DC Office on Aging, implemented the Senior Citizens' Police Academy. This program provides seniors with tools, resources and information that can help seniors avoid being victims of crime themselves, while also allowing them to get more actively involved in the Police Department's "Policing for Prevention" strategy of community policing.

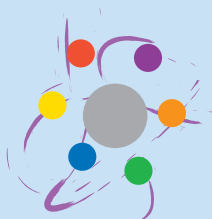
The first class began in June 2005. Since 2006, the program has been held annually. The twelve-week program is held on Tuesday mornings, from 9 AM to Noon, at the Office on Aging, 441 4th Street, NW, 9th Floor, or other field sites as needed. Courses are free and are designed to empower seniors and provide them with the opportunity to learn about:

- How to apply a five-step problem solving model and other crime-prevention tools in their community.

- Police procedures and operations, becoming champions for the Department in their local neighborhoods.
- How to be proactive in the criminal justice system.
- Neighborhood Services and Emergency Preparedness in order to more effectively access resources and protect themselves and their communities.
- Opportunities within the MPD and the National Citizen's Police Academy Association to become a volunteer and connect with crime-prevention efforts locally and nationally.

The Senior Citizens Police Academy is the first demonstration program of the MPD's Citizens Partnership Institute (MPD-CPI). The CPI is a crime-prevention leadership training program that specializes in the development of citizen-police training programs for community residents and leaders.

For more information, contact **Yvonne Smith** at **(202) 727-8809**. You may also fax to **(202) 727-9524**.



Citizens
Partnership
Institute

METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT



Vincent C. Gray
Mayor



Clarence Brown
Executive Director



Cathy L. Lanier
Chief of Police

The Senior Citizens Police Academy Program

Week One provides an overview of the twelve-week program and includes a tour of MPD Headquarters.

Week Two starts with an overview of the Metropolitan Police Department, including our mission, organization, and structure. The first class also includes an overview of the Citizens Advisory Councils and their role within the agency.

Week Three provides the students with an overview of community policing and how it differs from traditional policing. The class includes an overview of the Neighborhood Services Initiative and the role of agency collaboration at the local level.

Week Four includes an Introduction to the department's community policing strategy, Customized Community Policing, concluding with a practical application of how to partner with police to address neighborhood problems using the five-step Partnerships for Problem Solving model.

Week Five covers the “ins and outs” of police communications. The class provides the overall purpose and structure of the Office of Unified Communications, as well as the system for prioritizing and dispatching calls for police service. Students receive tips on how to make emergency (9-1-1) and non-emergency (3-1-1) calls, what number to call, what to report and the system for addressing problems or concerns.

Week Six covers a variety of police procedures, including stop and frisk, making an arrest, “papering” a case and Fourth Amendment issues. The course includes a look at the criminal justice system after the arrest, how to maneuver through the system to find out information about a case and how to proactively participate in the criminal justice system.

Week Seven gives students a glance at the MPD's Special Services Command, which includes detectives, forensics, and other specialized units, and provides crime-prevention strategies for auto theft and environmental crimes.

Week Eight provides crime prevention tips for seniors for personal and home safety. Tips on How to avoid becoming a victim of a crime or a scam are presented by additional MPD specialized units.

Week Nine includes a tour of the department's Maurice T. Turner Jr., Metropolitan Police Academy (MPA), a presentation on the use-of-force policies of the Department and a handgun demonstration.

Week Ten provides students with an in-depth view of Emergency Preparedness and how residents can play an active role in supporting homeland security.

Week Eleven gives students information on “How To Start a Citizen's Patrol,” participate in or revamp existing efforts as well as tips on how to start a Neighborhood Watch program and take a proactive role in fighting crime.

Week Twelve includes an introduction to the Metropolitan Police Department's volunteer opportunities and how to participate in an alumni association or participate in other organized police-community crime-prevention efforts.

At the conclusion of the program, Academy graduates will have the opportunity to participate in a graduation ceremony.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Metropolitan Police Department thanks the many partners who have contributed to this initiative, including members of the MPD-CPI Steering Committee (DC Office on Aging, Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency [CSOSA], United Planning Organization [UPO], Bell Multi-Cultural High School, Wise Up Orange Hats, 1D Citizens Advisory Council, PSA representatives from 1D and 4D, 6D Reserve officers); Chief's Citizens Advisory Council; Mid-Atlantic Regional Community Policing Institute (MARCPI); Office of Neighborhood Services; DC Office of the Attorney General; Office of Unified Communications and DC Emergency Management Agency; Office of the United States Attorney for the District of Columbia; George Washington University Center for Excellence in Municipal Management; and the Neighborhood College Program, formerly of DC Agenda.



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