

# WHAT'S *New*

IN THE METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

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



*Friday, December 23, 2011*

## HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM THE MPD

Chief Cathy Lanier, her Command Staff and all the members of the MPD wish our partners in the community a happy and peaceful holiday season.



## HOLIDAY REMINDER: DON'T DRINK AND DRIVE IN DC

Metropolitan Police officers are out in force this holiday season, looking for impaired drivers, speeders and other aggressive or unsafe drivers. Several sobriety checkpoints will be conducted between now and New Year's Day, as part of the MPD's holiday traffic safety detail. The MPD is also throwing its support behind both the designated driver and SoberRide programs this holiday season. Sponsored by the Washington Regional Alcohol Program (WRAP), SoberRide provides holiday revelers with free cab rides home (up to \$50) every evening from 10 pm to 6 am, now through January 1. Individuals may request a cab by calling (800) 200-TAXI (200-8294); Cingular Wireless customers can access the service by dialing #TAXI. The MPDC reminds motorists that DC has tough drunk driving laws, including a Blood Alcohol Content (BAC) standard of .08, zero tolerance for youthful offenders, and penalties that include stiff fines, license revocation and the possibility of jail time, even for first offenders.

» Learn more about drunk driving laws in DC by going to:

<http://mpdc.dc.gov/dui>

» More details on SoberRide are available at:

<http://www.wrap.org/soberride/>

## WINTER WEATHER PREPAREDNESS PLAN AND WEBSITE ANNOUNCED

While it's unlikely it will snow on Christmas this year, the District of Columbia is no stranger to the chilly white stuff. The city has been pummeled by major snowstorms several times over the past couple of years. On December 13, 2011, Mayor Vincent C. Gray announced the District's Snow/Winter Weather Emergency plan and the launch of [www.snow.dc.gov](http://www.snow.dc.gov) with DC Department of Transportation (DDOT) Director Terry Bellamy, DC Department of Public Works (DPW) Director William Howland, and DC Department of Human Resources (DCHR) Director Shawn Stokes at the John A. Wilson Building.

"Every snow season is unique, and the District government is planning for multiple winter-weather scenarios this season. Therefore, we're going to be flexible to address emerging needs, such as those that presented themselves during the snow storm of January 26, 2011," said Mayor Gray. "The DC Snow Plan for the 2011-2012 winter season includes key input and resources from virtually all of our operations and public safety cluster agencies. We will work to ensure that we make swift, well-informed decisions; that we coordinate our response and recovery; and that we communicate our decisions to residents and District stakeholders early and often."

Along with the Mayor, city officials showcased the new equipment District agencies have recently acquired to manage winter precipitation this season. Mayor Gray praised the Snow Team for their diligence in working around the clock to manage the inclement weather earlier in the year.

» For more information on how to receive snow/winter weather notifications and prepare for the winter season, please go to:

<http://www.snow.dc.gov>

» If you need to request a city service, e.g., requesting that a street be plowed, call the City Service Request Center at 3-1-1, or visit:

<http://311.dc.gov>

## METROPOLITAN POLICE AND FEDERAL PARTNERS SEIZE \$7.1 MILLION IN DRUGS IN OPERATION

On Monday, December 19, 2011, Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) Chief Cathy L. Lanier and members from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), announced the arrests of 70 suspects for the possession and distribution of firearms and narcotics with a street value of more than \$7.1 million.

The joint operation between MPD, ATF, along with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Agency, the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), and the United States Attorney's Office (USAO) was initiated to disrupt and dismantle illegal firearms trafficking, drug trafficking, and fencing operations within the District of Columbia.

On November 2, 2010, "Operation Manic Enterprises" was initiated. An undercover location was set up as a recording studio for a rap artist and was utilized to make the majority of undercover purchases. The operation continued through November 2011.

MPD's Major Narcotics Unit and federal authorities seized approximately 80 pounds of methamphetamine, 9.6 kilograms of cocaine, 1.25 gallons of PCP, 23.5 pounds of marijuana, heroin and MDMA/ecstasy. The drugs were purchased and seized by the detectives in the investigation. Additionally 161 firearms, including 29 assault weapons were purchased or seized during the undercover operation.

"If these drugs and guns had made it to our streets, the impact would have been devastating to community, said Chief Lanier. This was an extremely dangerous operation. These suspects had bragged about other violent crimes they had committed and had no qualms about killing police officers, guards and other innocent people. All the law enforcement members involved in this operation are to be commended for their bravery."

Numerous violent crimes were closed with arrests.

"It was just about two years ago to the day that we stood here with Chief Lanier and talked about our commitment to the safety of the citizens in the District of Columbia," said ATF Assistant Special Agent in Charge Rich Marianos. "Today's event shows that the men and women of ATF kept their word, and continue their work in making the citizens of DC safer."

"These investigations have proven very effective in targeting criminals and keeping drugs and guns off our community's streets," said U.S. Attorney Ronald C. Machen Jr. "The U.S. Attorney's Office is committed to working with our law enforcement partners and the citizens of the District of Columbia to bringing those who traffic in narcotics and firearms to justice."

» Anyone with information about crimes that occur in the District is asked to call the police at 202-727-9099 or 1-888-919-CRIM [E]. Anonymous information may also be forwarded to the department's TEXT TIP LINE by text messaging 50411.

### NEWS & NOTES

#### Also Noteworthy

**DC Public Library Offering Fine Forgiveness through 2/5.** Do you have an overdue library book, CD or DVD? Check it in before February 5 and DC Public Library (DCPL) will forgive your fines. That's right! No fines, no fees, and no questions asked. The

DCPL will forgive lost books as well. Regardless of how long you've had it and the condition it's in, check it in and discover the joy of using DC Public Library again. For more information visit <http://www.ddlibrary.org/node/29020>. **Join the MPD Reserve Corps.** The MPD Reserve Corps, a volunteer policing program is seeking new members. Applications are now being accepted at <http://dcpolice.jobs>.

**Report Crimes Against Children through the CyberTipline.** The CyberTipline is a Congressionally-mandated means for reporting crimes against children. Report crimes 24-hours a day, 7 days a week by calling **1-800-843-5678** or reporting crimes online at <http://www.cybertipline.com>.

### DATA BOX

<b>Homicides</b>	as of 12/23/11
2011: 108	
2010: 132	
% Change: -18.2%	
Closure Rate: 87% (94 closures)	
<b>Firearm Recoveries</b>	as of 12/19/11
December: 90	
2011 Total: 1,854	
<b>Traffic Fatalities</b>	as of 12/23/11
2011: 31	
2010: 25	
% Change: 24%	

#### Information, ideas, or comments about this service?

Send an e-mail to **KAYLIN CASTELLI**, Manager of Internet Communications, at [kaylin.castelli@dc.gov](mailto:kaylin.castelli@dc.gov)

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