

WHAT'S *New*

IN THE METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

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



Friday, January 6, 2012

MPD ANNOUNCES NEW POLICE SERVICE AREA BOUNDARIES THROUGH REALIGNMENT PROGRAM

On December 30, 2011, Metropolitan Police Department Chief Cathy Lanier launched an effort to realign patrol-service boundaries because of current and projected future imbalances in patrol-district workload.

“With increasing business and residential development and the thriving tourist and entertainment areas throughout the city, workload in the police districts has shifted significantly since the last boundary realignment was done in 2004,” said Chief Lanier. “The goal of the boundary realignment is to improve police service to the city.”

The city is divided into seven Police Districts, each of which is subdivided into five or more Police Service Areas (PSAs). The realignment plan, which will go into effect on January 1, is based on evaluation of crime, calls for service, development and road-construction plans, community concerns and other factors. The new boundaries will distribute crime and calls for service almost equally among the districts. While some police districts are changing more than others, all are undergoing some change. In addition, under the new boundaries, the largest PSAs will be reduced in size, with the total number of PSAs increasing from 46 to 56.

“All of this means more efficient police services for residents, as well as those who work here and visit our city,” said Mayor Gray. “I want to commend Chief Lanier and the men and women of the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) for the progress they have made in combating crime.”

DC DMV TICKET AMNESTY PROGRAM ENDS JANUARY 27

For the past five months, the District of Columbia has been conducting temporary ticket amnesty program that allows customers to pay older outstanding tickets without having to pay the penalty that would otherwise have been assessed on the ticket. But time is running out. The amnesty program ends on January 27, 2012.

All open parking tickets, citations for moving violations and photo-enforcement tickets issued before January 1, 2010, qualify under the amnesty program.

“This program is an incentive for customers to pay off their old tickets,” said Mayor Gray. “In the current economic environment, we expect that many customers will take advantage of this opportunity to clear their debts to DMV at a lower cost – producing revenue results for the District.”

Under the program:

- Hearings cannot be requested on amnesty tickets.
- Amnesty tickets are eligible for a ticket-payment plan.
- Payments on tickets made prior to August 1, 2011 are not eligible for a refund.
- No points will be assessed on moving-violation tickets paid.

The last time the District offered a ticket amnesty was in 2001.



Get details on your new PSA boundaries by scanning this QR Code.

- » For information and details on your new police district and PSA boundaries, go to: <http://mpdc.dc.gov/districts>
- » Read the complete news release on the realignment plan and the significant drop in homicides in 2011 at: <http://mpdc.dc.gov>
- » Want to pay an outstanding ticket? Customers can pay their amnesty tickets in a variety of ways:
 - o Online: <http://dmv.dc.gov>
 - o By Phone: (866) 893-5023
 - o In Person: Visit the DMV Adjudication Services in person at 301 C Street, NW (Monday through Friday, 8:15 am - 4 pm)
- » Get more information about the DMV's Ticket Amnesty Program at: <http://dmv.dc.gov/serv/ticket/ticketamnestyprogramquickfacts.shtm>
- » Pay your ticket online at: https://wmq.etimspayments.com/pbw/include/dc_parking/info.jsp

EMAIL LIST GROUPS HELP STRENGTHEN ONLINE COMMUNITY

The MPD police-community Yahoo discussion groups were created for members of the community so they could share public safety information in an effort to help reduce crime and the fear of crime. Information shared on the email list groups include community announcements, meeting dates, crime statistics, safety concerns and ideas, crime reports, and safety tips. The listserv also acts as a virtual community, which helps strengthen partnerships between the local police and the communities they serve. It provides yet another means of visibility and accessibility for the community.

The listserv discussion groups are designed to attract area residents, employees, students, business owners, elected officials, and government agency representatives interested in coming together to solve problems and share public safety-related information that will improve the quality of life in each police district. It provides an opportunity for all stakeholders and DC service providers to engage in ongoing online interaction with police, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, holidays and weekends.

Information posted to the groups is intended to benefit members of a specific police district. If you don't know your police district, you can find out by visiting access the DC Guide to easily locate a PSA and other resources within a geographic area.

Successes of the police listserv include:

- Faster dissemination of information, especially community meetings and events.
- Assistance with identifying and taking action against nuisance properties.
- Successful collaborations among community groups, elected officials and police.
- Greater assistance with lookouts — from missing persons and pets to found property
- Recognizing good work and identifying areas of service that need improvement.
- Gauging the community's concerns.
- Developing relationships, especially when a police district gets a new commander or new patrol officers
- Identifying community leaders and activists, who are eager to join the group to let their voices be heard.
- Sharing information between districts.
- Listserv-to-Listsers communications (MPD postings are regularly shared with other large community online groups, with the potential of reaching 20,000 online users in one day.)

» For more information or to get the Yahoo group name of your district listserv, go to <http://mpdc.dc.gov/listserv>

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.dclibrary.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>.

Support the Washington DC Police Foundation. The Washington DC Police Foundation is a tax-exempt, non-profit organization that brings together the business, civic, and other professional communities to promote public safety by providing financial and in-kind resources to the MPD, expanding public safety awareness, and advancing public safety policy and initiatives. Learn more about the extraordinary support the Washington DC Police Foundation provides to the MPD. Learn more about the Foundation at <http://www.dcpolicefoundation.org>.

DATA BOX

Homicides	as of 1/6/12
2012: 2	
2011: 3	
% Change: -33.3%	
Closure Rate: 50% (1 closure)	
Firearm Recoveries	as of 12/26/11
December: 121	
2011 Total: 1,885	
Traffic Fatalities	as of 1/6/12
2012: 0	
2011: 0	
% Change: No Change	

Information, ideas, or comments about this service?

Send an e-mail to **KAYLIN CASTELLI**, Manager of Internet Communications, at kaylin.castelli@dc.gov

Would you like *What's New in the MPD* emailed to you each week?

Register with DC.Gov at <http://dc.gov/DC/Subscribe/Email+Alerts>

LEARN MORE AT
mpdc.dc.gov