

WHAT'S *New*

IN THE METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

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



Friday, January 3, 2014

MPD COMMENCES RENEWALS OF FIREARMS REGISTRATION

On Thursday, January 2, 2014, the Metropolitan Police Department announced the start of renewals for approximately 30,000 firearms that were registered in the District of Columbia prior to 2011.

Under a 2009 District of Columbia law, firearms registrations must be renewed every three years. Registered firearms owners will renew their registrations over the course of two years, with the renewal date based on the registrant's date of birth.

MPD has established a simple, streamlined process for registration renewals. Individuals will be mailed a notice from MPD giving them a three-month window to renew their registration. Renewals will be processed at MPD headquarters during regular business hours, as well as evening hours that will be available by appointment only.

Individuals must complete a one-page form to update their address, confirm compliance with District and federal firearms laws, and provide information on the firearms being renewed. In addition, they will be fingerprinted in order to complete an FBI criminal history check.

Regardless of the number of registered firearms an individual is renewing, they will pay a total of \$48, which includes a \$13 registration fee and a \$35 background check fee. Payment can be made by cash, MasterCard, Visa, or money order.

After submitting the renewal form, being fingerprinted, and paying the \$48 fee, individuals will be issued a temporary firearms registration certificate from MPD. Upon passing the criminal background check, MPD will mail the individual their firearms registration renewal card, which will be valid for three years from the date of issuance.

Persons who fail to renew their firearms registrations more than 90 days after the three-month window will have their registrations cancelled by MPD. Under District law, possession of an unregistered firearm is a crime punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 or imprisonment for not more than one year, or both.

» For more information about the firearms registration renewal process, including downloading the application forms, please visit <http://mpdc.dc.gov/gunregistrationrenewal>.

METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT EXTENDS WARNING PERIOD FOR NEW PHOTO ENFORCEMENT TECHNOLOGY

The Metropolitan Police Department has announced that the warning period for the new photo enforcement technology has been extended until January 31, 2014.

Because this is a new enforcement effort, we made a decision to extend the warning period by 30 days to ensure the community is aware of the program. The goal of the program is to change driver's behavior and increase safety for the driving, biking and pedestrian community. The new technology focuses on a number of new enforcement areas such as blocking the box, oversized vehicles and failing to yield to pedestrians.

The new automated traffic safety enforcement cameras were activated on Saturday, November 23, 2013. Cameras at the new locations will issue warnings to vehicles for violations until Friday, January 31, 2014. Beginning Saturday, February 1, 2014, cameras at new locations will issue fines for violations.

» For more information about the new technology, the locations of all automated enforcement units, and DC Street Safe videos, please visit: <http://www.DCStreetsafe.org>.

DISTRICT'S PUBLIC SAFETY AGENCIES ADOPT SOCIAL MEDIA POLICIES FOR EMPLOYEES

All agencies within the District's Public Safety and Justice cluster have adopted social media policies for their employees, designed to ensure only verified and accurate information is transmitted to the public, Deputy Mayor Paul Quander said today.

"Public safety employees have a special trust with the community they serve," he said. "While on duty, they have access to law enforcement sensitive information as well as personal and often protected information.

"Whether it's a 911 emergency operator, a police officer or fire fighter on the scene of an incident, a correctional officer in a cell block, an autopsy technician, a crime scene or DNA analyst, there is an obligation while on duty to not convey unauthorized information," Deputy Mayor Quander said.

The Metropolitan Police Department has had such a policy for several years. After careful consultation with the Office of the Attorney General, all agencies within the Public Safety cluster have adopted similar policies.

» The MPD's Social Media Policy is included in the General Order titled Metropolitan Police Department Wide Area Network (MPDNet) and is available to the public along with many other written directives at:

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

» Get the latest from the Office of the Deputy Mayor for Public Safety and Justice online! Follow ODMPJSJ at:

<http://dmpsj.dc.gov/>

RESIDENTS REMINDED ABOUT REWARDS IN HOMICIDES, ROBBERIES, OTHER VIOLENT CRIMES

In an effort to enlist even more community support in solving crimes and prosecuting offenders, the MPD reminds members of the public that the Department operates and supports a number of reward programs. These programs offer members of the community substantial cash rewards for information that can help the MPD close cases. For example, the MPD offers a reward of up to \$25,000 to anyone who provides information that leads to the arrest and conviction of the person or persons responsible for any homicide committed in the District of Columbia. This reward applies to recent cases or homicides that were committed years ago. The Department also offers an enhanced reward of up to \$5,000 to anyone who provides information that leads to the arrest and conviction of the person or persons responsible for any robbery in DC. The reward amount increases to up to \$10,000 for information in robberies that involve a life-threatening injury to the victim.

Anyone with information about an unsolved homicide, robbery, or other crime in DC is asked to call the MPD's 24-hour or the Command Information Center (CIC) at (202) 727-9099. Anonymous information may be forwarded to the department's TEXT TIP LINE by text messaging 50411. And, of course, the Department continues to support the Crime Solvers program, which offers rewards of up to \$1,000 for information that leads to the arrest and indictment of the person or persons responsible for other felony crimes. The Crime Solvers telephone number is (800) 673-2777. All calls to Crime Solvers are confidential, and callers need not provide their names.

» Get details on rewards offered by the MPD at:

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

» Learn more about the MPD's 24/7 anonymous crime tip lines at:

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

» Flyers on unsolved homicide cases are posted on the MPD website at:

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

NEWS & NOTES

Also Noteworthy

Join the MPD Reserve Corps. The MPD Reserve Corps, a volunteer policing program is

seeking new members. Applications are now being accepted at <http://dcpolicejobs.dc.gov>.

Tell Us How We're Doing. MPD is now part of Grade DC. We invite you to share your thoughts on our service – positive or negative

– through MPD's email groups, our social media, or by visiting the Grade DC website. Get more information at <http://grade.dc.gov>.

Information, ideas, or comments about this service?

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

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