

WHAT'S *New*

IN THE METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

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



Friday, January 17, 2014

TWENTY-EIGHT NEW OFFICERS AND NINE NEW RESERVE CORPS MEMBERS ARE HITTING THE STREETS OF DC

Patrols in DC neighborhoods are being boosted by the addition of 29 officers who were sworn in during a graduation ceremony on Friday, January 17, 2014, at the Metropolitan Police Academy in Southwest DC.

Training awards presented during the ceremony recognized **Officer Nathaniel Porter** (Academic Training Award); **Officer James Stamper** (Firearms Training Award); **Officer Marcus Talley** (Vehicle Skills Awards); and **Officer David Whithead** (Physical Skills Awards). The new officers all completed approximately 24 weeks of training at the police academy, which includes a full program of physical, classroom, and firearms training to prepare them for the challenges of being a police officer. The subjects covered include laws of arrest, search and seizure, criminal law, traffic regulations, human relations, community policing, and ethics. In addition, recruit officers receive skills training in firearms, operation of emergency police vehicles, self-defense, advanced first aid, and much more.

The Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) is focused on building a crime-fighting partnership with the community, and developing our own promise and potential as a department. Police work requires a certain type of individual — one who has strong interpersonal skills and the motivation to work with our partners to help build strong, safe and healthy communities throughout the District of Columbia.

The MPD's Reserve Corps Division is making significant contributions to the Department through volunteer police services. It has come a long way over the past few years, graduating over 30 new members since 2010. Individuals interested in volunteering with the MPD as a Reserve Corps member are encouraged to apply.



» For more information on becoming a police officer in the MPD visit the police recruiting website at: <http://dcpolicejobs.dc.gov>

» The MPD is looking for volunteers to join the MPD's Reserve Corps, which provides qualified civic-minded individuals with the opportunity to assist the MPD in carrying out its policing responsibilities. Details on the Reserve Corps and other volunteer programs are available at: <http://mpdc.dc.gov/page/volunteer-opportunities-mpdc>

PROVIDE 911 WITH A SAFETY PROFILE THROUGH SMART911

Smart911, a initiative by the Office of Unified Communications (OUC) improves public safety by providing immediate crucial information to emergency responders. Smart911 provides emergency responders with much more complete information about 911 callers so they can respond to the right location, with the right personnel and the right equipment. Smart911 is a public/private partnership enabling the creation of a critical caller database that integrates with the District's 911 system. Coupled with the DC 311 smart-phone app, the availability of Smart911 adds to the goal of making OUC the nation's most efficient and responsive emergency communications agency.

» Smart911 is supported by the DC Office of Unified Communications (OUC), which oversees the 9-1-1 call center in the District of Columbia. Learn more about OUC at: <http://ouc.dc.gov/>

With Smart911, residents are able to create a Safety Profile at www.smart911.com that is automatically displayed to 9-1-1 during emergency calls. The profile can include home and work addresses associated with mobile phone numbers, specific medical conditions and disabilities, all family members, vehicle information and even information about pets.

Residents are encouraged to create their Safety Profile with Smart911 today to have their information immediately available to 911. Smart911 data is private and secure, is only used for emergency responses, and is only made available to the 911 system in the event of an emergency call.

- » Create your safety profile with Smart911 online at:
<https://www.smart911.com/>
- » Need to report a non-emergency issue in your neighborhood? Try the DC311 Smartphone app. Get more information at:
<http://ouc.dc.gov/page/dc-311-smartphone-app>

DPW OFFERS GRAFFITI REMOVAL SERVICES

Graffiti is generally described as a drawing or inscription made on any exterior surface—from street signs to sidewalks—for the purpose of being seen by the public. The inscription can be rudimentary or elaborate, colorful or plain black. Gang members use graffiti to define territory and intimidate rivals.

In an effort to keep the District clean and attractive, the DC Department of Public Works (DPW) provides residential and business property owners with two free options to remove graffiti themselves. The Graffiti Removal Voucher Program issues a voucher to property owners that may be redeemed at several local paint stores. Call 311 to obtain a voucher. The paint store will match the color of the paint of the property. The voucher will provide property owners with paint, primer, a brush, roller, pan, drop cloth and graffiti scrubs free of charge.

Property owners who want to remove the graffiti using a non-toxic solvent should call 311 and ask for a graffiti removal kit, which will be delivered to the owner's residence or business. The solvent is applied and sprayed off with a garden hose. There are two separate solvent formulas, one for bare brick and masonry, and a separate formula for sensitive surfaces. The solvents do not contain phosphates, chlorinated hydrocarbons, xylene or any other products known to cause health or disposal problems for graffiti removal technicians. They are 100 percent biodegradable and meet US Environmental Protection Agency standards.

DPW will clean graffiti from public and private property using paint or non-toxic solutions that are applied then removed with a high-pressure water spray, known as a power wash. The power wash is not suitable for walls with loose or crumbling masonry. Call 311 to request either of these services. A waiver of liability form will be provided, which must be signed by the property owner and returned to DPW before abatement will occur on private property.

- » For more information on graffiti removal by the DPW, go to:
<http://dpw.dc.gov/service/graffiti-removal-serv>
- » Planning a clean-up effort for the spring? The DPW helps community groups that organize Saturday neighborhood clean-up projects through the Helping Hand Program. Get more information about Helping Hand at:
<http://dpw.dc.gov/service/helping-hand-neighborhood-clean>
- » Need to request a city service? Call 3-1-1 or visit:
<http://311.dc.gov/>

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>.

Report Crimes Against Children through the CyberTipline. Report crimes 24-hours a day, 7 days a week by calling 1-800-843-5678 or reporting crimes online at [http://](http://www.cybertipline.com)

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Preventing terrorism is everybody's business. If you SEE something, SAY something. Call the MPD at (202) 727-9099 to report suspicious activity that has already occurred. Call 911 to report in-progress threats or emergencies. Learn how you can help fight terrorism at <http://mpdc.dc.gov/operationTIPP>.

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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