

# WHAT'S *New*

IN THE METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

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



*Friday, July 29, 2016*

## TWENTY NEW OFFICERS MEMBERS HITTING THE STREETS OF DC

Patrols in DC neighborhoods are being boosted by the addition of 20 officers who were sworn in during a graduation ceremony on Friday, July 29, 2016, at the Maurice T. Turner, Jr. Metropolitan Police Academy in Southwest DC.

Awards presented during the ceremony recognized the following new members' accomplishments:



### Recruit Class 2015-12 Awardees

Award	Recipient
Academic Training Award	Officer Deborah Smith
Firearms Training Award	Officer Scott Kennedy
Physical Skills Award	Officer Jonathan Peterson-Johnson Officer Deborah Smith

The new officers all completed approximately 28 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.

## MPD AND DC POLICE FOUNDATION PARTNERSHIP PROVIDE YOUTH PROGRAMS FOR FUTURE LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

The Metropolitan Police Department and DC Police Foundation's Junior Police Academy (JPA) Summer Job program is successfully providing opportunities to youth to consider a career in law enforcement in the District of Columbia. The six-week summer program aimed at students who are curious about law, politics, the court-system, government or law enforcement, help gain an insider's perspective of the criminal justice system and internal operations of the Metropolitan Police Department.

In conjunction with the DC Police Foundation, the Junior Police Academy offers students from the ages of 14 to 18 an opportunity to learn first-hand from MPD members.

- » Check out our video: "It's a great time to be MPD. Are you the one?" at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iQaSjcyjW-U>
- » 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>

- » Learn more about the Junior Police Academy and other Summer Programs at the MPD, visit: <http://mpdc.dc.gov/page/summer-metropolitan-police-department>
- » Recent high-school grads interested in the Police Cadet Training Program may get more information at: <http://mpdc.dc.gov/page/become-cadet>

Former graduate of JPA, Indiah Dave is one such example. From participating in JPA for consecutive summers from age 16 until graduating Richard Wright Public Charter School, Dave decided upon completion of high school to enroll in MPD's Cadet Program to further learn about law enforcement. She states her participation in JPA summers were instrumental in her decision to pursue a career with MPD.

"The role models such as Sergeant Tidline and the various different police officers that worked in the School Safety Division really were an inspiration, and really how I made my decision to apply to the cadet program. Growing up, you always hear the negative things about police officers, but getting to know them in-person and developing a relationship with my mentors helped shift my perspective," said now-Cadet Dave.

These personal interactions to get to know officers and the police led Dave to where she is today, participating in the Cadet program at MPD after recent acceptance. The Police Cadet Training program offers DC residents between the ages of 17 and 20 an opportunity to earn up to sixty college credits at the District of Columbia Community College while preparing them to take the police recruit entrance requirement for a career with MPD. The program also offers benefits including a starting salary, retirement credits, and training.

Cadet Dave plans to apply to the Police Academy upon successful completion of her training in the current program. "It's nice to know that I have opportunities and the best training is being provided to me – my mentors were with me every step of the way encouraging me to apply, and helped me get to where I am today," said Dave. "I know all of this will better prepare me in the career I have chosen with MPD."

## DC PREPARES FOR NATIONAL NIGHT OUT ON AUGUST 2

On Tuesday, August 2, thousands of DC residents are expected to join with their neighbors, police officers and other community leaders in celebrating National Night Out (NNO). From community cookouts to open houses – block parties, candlelight vigils and athletic events – DC is gearing up for the 33rd annual celebration of "America's Night Out Against Crime." The citywide kickoff will begin at 5:30 pm at River Terrace Park, Anacostia Avenue and Benning Road, NE, in the Sixth District. Public safety characters McGruff the Crime Dog® and the National Knight® will be available to meet attendees and have their photos taken. In addition to the numerous activities taking place at the kickoff event, communities across DC – in all seven police districts – have scheduled NNO events during the late afternoon and evening hours.

National Night Out is an annual event, sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch, that takes place on the first Tuesday in August. Each year, the Metropolitan Police Department actively participates in National Night Out by rallying community members throughout the District of Columbia to join with neighbors and police officers in their PSAs to be a part of this annual event.

The National Night Out campaign involves citizens, law enforcement agencies, civic groups, businesses, neighborhood organizations and local officials from 9,500 communities from all 50 states, US territories, Canadian cities and military bases worldwide.

» For complete list of events scheduled to take place in the seven police districts and other information about National Night Out in DC, go to: <http://mpdc.dc.gov/NNO>

» Even if you can't participate in an organized National Night Out event, you can still be involved. Residents are encouraged to turn on their exterior lights on the evening of August 2, as a show of neighborhood solidarity against crime. Learn more about NNO at: <http://www.nno.org>



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

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