

WHAT'S New

IN THE METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

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



Friday, August 19, 2016

CHIEF LANIER THANKS COMMUNITY, DEPARTMENT MEMBERS AS SHE ANNOUNCES RETIREMENT FROM THE MPD

As you may have heard, today I announced my plan to retire from the Metropolitan Police Department. I came to this difficult decision with mixed emotions, but in the end, I am confident that MPD has the most exceptional police officers and leadership that will continue to move this agency and the city forward.

Looking back, I am perhaps most pleased by the tremendous partnership between police and the community in the District – a partnership that has only grown stronger over the past ten years. I want to thank each of you on this email group for your engagement with police and investment in public safety.



Our work together is what helps our city and our neighborhoods to thrive. Information from community members helped to turn our city around from one known as the murder capital where you could get away with homicide, to one that has reached new lows in the number of homicides, and where police will never give up on trying to solve a homicide, no matter when it happened. Our partnership has helped to engage youth of all ages in safe and positive experiences with police officers. It also makes our streets safer every day. If everyone looks out for not only their neighbor but the person on their sidewalk, in the park down the road, or driving down their street, then the District can be even safer.

I urge you to continue to work with the outstanding men and women of MPD. I expect them to continue to protect and serve the District with same commitment to respect all people in this city, as well as our laws and MPD policies. In turn, I ask that you give them your support, especially in this time that is challenging for communities and police alike. Our patrol officers have demonstrated that they can take guns and violent offenders off the street daily and still make the time to play ball or dance with neighborhood kids looking for mentors. Our detectives, Criminal Research Specialists, and warrant squads pull together and work around the clock to take violent predators off the street, sometimes more than once, before they can re-offend. Members of MPD manage massive crowds, sometimes peaceful and sometimes not so peaceful, flawlessly, always keeping the public safe and maintaining order, while respecting First Amendment rights. Our civilians, while generally unrecognized by the public, work long hours to support our city and Department and are essential in our ability to achieve our mission. They do all of this without asking for your thanks, but they certainly appreciate it when they receive it.

Almost ten years ago, I accepted the job as the Chief of Police in Washington, DC, not only because I love this department and the city, but because I realized the significance of keeping our nation's capital safe in an environment when everything that America values is vulnerable to attack. It is for this same reason I have decided to accept a position that will allow me to serve and protect America's favorite sport, as the Senior Vice President of Security Operations

for the National Football League. It is an honor for me to move to the next stage of my career knowing that I can use the experience and education that I have gained over the past 26 years to protect and serve all of the NFL, its fans, players and employees.

Cathy L. Lanier
Cathy L. Lanier
Chief of Police

QUICK RESPONSE FROM CONCERNED CITIZENS AND SWORN MEMBERS SAVE BOY'S LIFE

Each spring, the MPD holds a Department-wide awards ceremony to recognize sworn and civilian members for the outstanding work they do throughout the year. In addition to this annual ceremony, members are also presented with awards throughout the year at the regularly-scheduled crime briefings. A summary of the awards presented to members for their exceptional service is also posted online. On August 19, 2016, Chief Lanier presented two citizens with the Chief of Police Special Award and two sworn members with the Lifesaving Medal for their valiant efforts in resuscitating a boy who could have drowned without their help.

Ms. Jenee Williams and Victoria Williams called to the pool area in the 2600 block of Bowen Road, SE, for an eight-year-old boy face down in the pool. Ms. Jenee Williams climbed over the fence and was able to pull the boy out of the water. He was unconscious and not breathing. Ms. Victoria Williams was able to get over the fence, so she started to perform CPR.

Officer Donald Walker was the first officer on the scene when he saw Jenee and Victoria in the gated pool area administering CPR. Officer Walker climbed the fence and went to assist the women performing CPR. Officer Walker did a head tilt on the boy, at which time the he started to vomit water. Master Patrol Officer Todd Williams arrived on the scene with a breach kit and was able to cut the padlock off of the gate to allow the DC Fire Department to reach him. The boy, who was conscious and breathing at this point, was then transported to the hospital.

» Read about the commendable actions of other members in the new "Round of Applause" section of the MPD's website at:
<http://mpdc.dc.gov/page/round-applause-year-round-recognition-departments-members>



NEWS & NOTES

Also Noteworthy

DDOT's Vision Zero asks Bikeshare Riders to Share Safety Stories, Concerns.

People on bikes are a particularly vulnerable population of travelers, and the Vision Zero team wants to ensure that this perspective is reflected in our safety strategies. Learn more and share info at <http://www.DCVisionZero.com>.

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>.

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>.

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>.

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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