

WHAT'S *New*

IN THE METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

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



Friday, September 23, 2016

TWENTY NEW OFFICERS 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, September 23, 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 2016-02 Awardees	
Award	Recipient
Academic Training Award	Officer Samuel Fisher
Firearms Training Award	Officer Donovan Sanchez
Physical Skills Award	Officer Crystal Toro Officer Evan Douglas

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.

EXCHANGE ZONES PROVIDE SAFE LOCATIONS FOR BUYING, SELLING OR TRADING ITEMS FOUND ONLINE

Several individuals in the District of Columbia have been targeted after using mobile marketplace applications to buy or sell items. Suspects have used these online platforms to lure victims to meet them at locations to purchase or sell an item and when the victim arrives, a pre-staged robbery occurs.

To combat robberies Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) have designated three Exchange Zone areas. These areas will serve as a safe place for residents and visitors to exchange and complete transactions of online purchases. Exchange Zones deter many of these types of robberies by providing well-lit areas that are near police stations, giving Washingtonians a

- » 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>

safe place to purchase or exchange property. The three Exchange Zone locations include:

- Special Operations Division's Harbor Patrol/ 550 Water Street, Southwest,
- Third District/ 1620 V Street, Northwest,
- Sixth District/ 5002 Hayes Street, Northeast

MPD would also like to remind the public of these safety tips when selling or purchasing items from strangers:

- Never meet anyone alone.
- Never list your home address, phone number, or any other identifiable information.
- Never meet at night.

MPD will continue to focus significant resources on reducing robberies across the city. If you have any information related to a robbery, you can anonymously text us at 50411 or call 202-727-9099.

- » Get tips on how to reduce the risk of robbery or assault at:
<http://mpdc.dc.gov/page/guarding-against-robbery-and-assault>
- » Download this helpful tip card with tips on how to reduce your risk of being a victim while you are on foot:
<http://mpdc.dc.gov/publication/be-aware-your-surroundings>

EXCHANGE ZONE

Buying, selling or trading something you found online? Do it safely.

Whether you're buying or selling, the internet is a great tool for a good deal. But not everyone out there is trustworthy. The MPD has noted a significant uptick in robberies where the victims were targeted after using online resale sites to try to buy or sell items.

Some tips for a safe exchange in person:

- It is always best to meet during daylight hours.
- Never meet anyone in a non-public area, or an area that is not well traveled.
- Always meet in a well-lit location, with lots of people, and cameras.

Consider meeting at or near one of MPD's designated "Exchange Zones" at:

- SOD Harbor Patrol / 550 Water Street, SW
- Third District / 1620 V Street, NW
- Sixth District / 5002 Hayes Street, NE



REMINDER TO YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES: CURFEW IN EFFECT YEAR ROUND; SCHOOL YEAR HOURS BEGAN 9/1

The MPD offers this reminder to young people and their families concerning DC's teen curfew: From September 1 through June 30, DC's curfew for young people under the age of 17 starts at 11 pm, Sunday through Thursday nights, and at 12:01 am on weekends. During the summer (July and August) DC's curfew starts at 12:01 am, and continues until 6 am seven days a week. This is an hour later than the weeknight curfew during school months. Under DC law, persons under the age of 17 cannot remain in or on a street, park or other outdoor public place, in a vehicle or on the premises of any establishment within the District during curfew hours, unless they are involved in certain exempted activities. These include work, school, religious, civic or organized recreational activities, as well as the exercise of First Amendment rights. DC's curfew law applies to all young people who are in the District during curfew hours, regardless of whether they live inside or outside the city. During the first eight months of 2016, the MPD has processed over 700 curfew violators.

- » For complete details on DC's curfew law, including sample exemptions and alternative resources for young people, go to:
<http://mpdc.dc.gov/curfew>

NEWS & NOTES

Also Noteworthy

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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