ANC 6B Outreach and Constituent Services Taskforce
REPORT ON PUBLIC SAFETY IN ANC 6B

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I. Purpose and Background

Like many urban neighborhoods, the ANC 6B community has long struggled to understand and productively respond to public safety challenges. Spikes in crime or high-profile violent incidents properly focus neighborhood attention on crime, but that attention often fades without a sustained public discussion about ways in which we can make our neighborhood safer. Residents often lack basic information about crime trends, policing strategies, and other issues critical to understanding events in our neighborhood.

This report is the product of over six months of research and discussions led by residents and Commissioners working with ANC 6B's Outreach and Constituent Services Taskforce. At the outset of its efforts, the Taskforce identified a host of questions about crime and how the criminal justice system operates in our neighborhood, which this report now seeks to answer:

- Is crime increasing or decreasing in our neighborhood?
- How can residents maintain situational awareness about crime in their neighborhood?
- What does the criminal justice system in DC look like?
- How is MPD organized in ANC 6B?
- What patrol strategies does MPD employ in ANC 6B?
- How does MPD investigate crimes in ANC 6B?
- How does MPD use its resources citywide?
- How well do law enforcement agencies cooperate with each other?
- What policing strategies do other jurisdictions use?
- How is 911 run and what is 911's performance?
- What services are available for victims of crime?
- How does the district manage returning offenders?
- What steps can neighbors take to make themselves and the community safer?

The Taskforce hopes that this report will be a useful resource for residents and ANC Commissioners seeking to better understand public safety issues in the Capitol Hill community.

II. Crime in ANC 6B

A. Is Crime Increasing or Decreasing in Our Neighborhood?

Below are six time series graphs reflecting incidents of crime (calculated on a monthly basis) over the last two-and-half years in ANC 6B.[1] Crimes covered include: robberies,[2] violent crime,[3] burglaries, thefts, thefts from autos, stolen autos, and total property crime.[4]

It appears that crime rates have fluctuated over the past two-and-a-half years, with little indication of any general upward or downward trends. That said, these charts show a cyclical

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[1] As of the time of this report, MPD's website only maintains crime statistics dating back to early 2011.

[2] A robbery is the taking of property by force or violence (or the threat thereof).

[3] "Violent crime" in this report refers to robberies, assaults with a deadly weapon, sexual assaults, and homicides.

[4] A burglary is the illegal entry into a building with the intent to commit a crime (usually theft). "Thefts" in this report refers to all thefts that are not "thefts from autos." "Thefts from autos" refers to stealing property from an automobile, whereas "stolen autos" refers to stealing the car itself. "Total property crime" in this report means all thefts (including from autos), stolen autos, burglaries, and arsons.

crime spike during at least one month in the late spring or summer (May to August) each year in ANC 6B. It is also worth noting that the overwhelming majority of crime in ANC 6B is property crime: Burglaries, thefts, and stolen autos greatly outnumber robberies, assaults, and other violent crimes.

Total Property Crime

Burglaries

Thefts

Stolen Autos
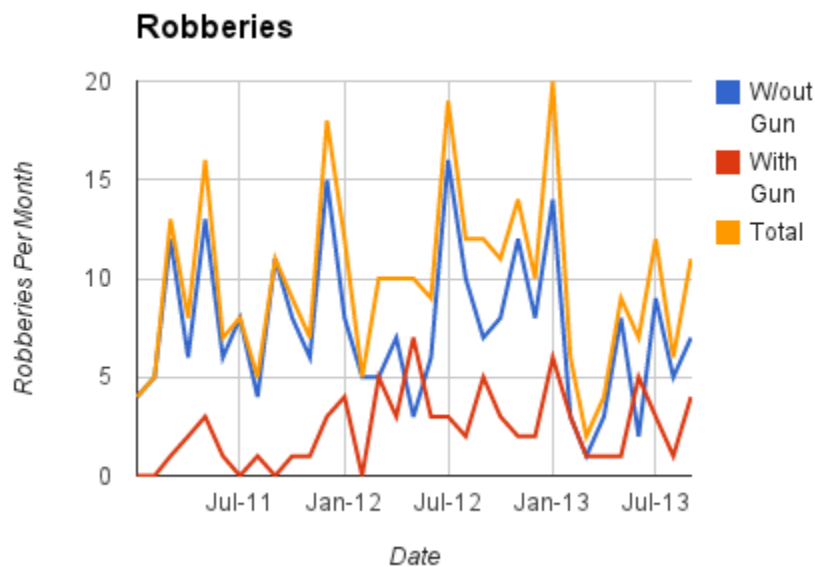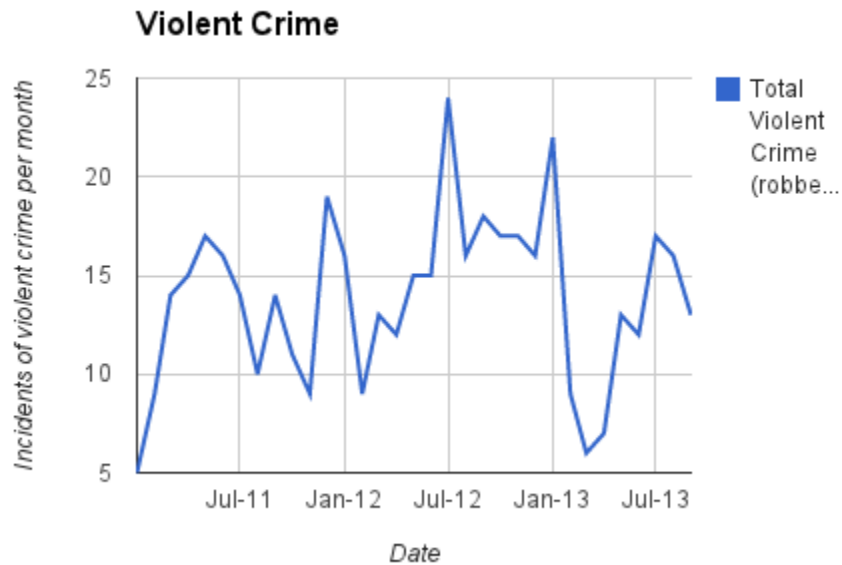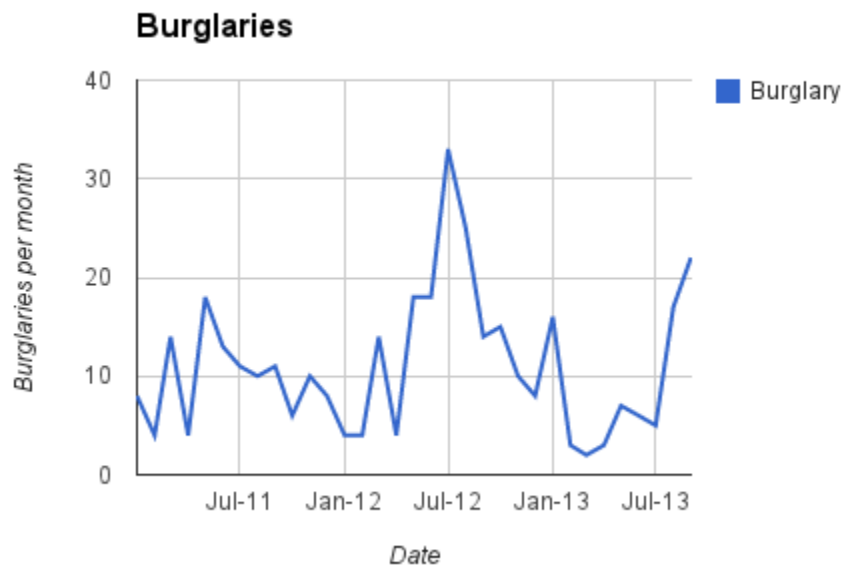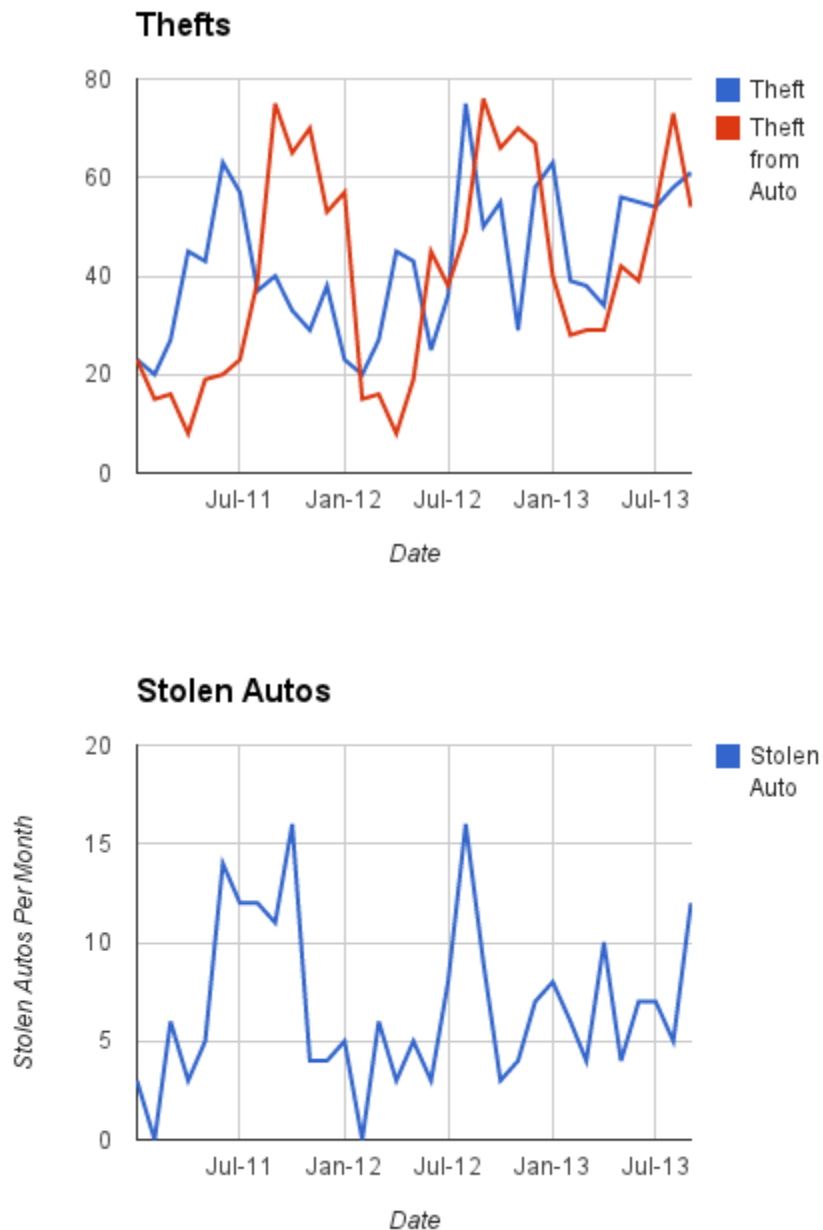
B. How Can Residents Maintain Situational Awareness About Crime in Their Neighborhood?

First, MPD provides searchable crime data for the city on its website at http://crimemap.dc.gov/. This website produced the data shown in the various charts above. It was down and completely inoperable, however, for months in 2012 and 2013 while MPD switched to a new crime statistics system, which significantly limited the community's (and the Taskforce's) ability to track crime in the neighborhood.

The MPD website is also missing information that would be helpful for the community. Residents cannot track arrests or convictions for any of the crimes that occur in their neighborhood. Location information for some crimes may be missing and, when available, is generalized at the block level. Since the system was renewed, it no longer contains data for crimes committed prior to 2011. Several years ago, MPD removed the brief description of each crime. Today, MPD's revamped crime statistics site does not allow for easy mapping of certain sets of neighborhood crime. For example, as far as we can tell, the crime site does not allow one to view a map of all robberies in ANC 6B over the last year but it will create a map of all robberies, year to date.

MPD maintains a Yahoo group that provides a second source of information at http://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/MPD-1D/info. MPD posts Daily Crime Reports and other information that can be read by anyone who goes to the site. Those who join the group can make comments and pose questions to MPD. Officers monitor the group and often post responses within a day. The content of the Daily Crime Reports differs from the downloadable CrimeMap data. It contains the date and time when the reported crime took place and the often important sub-data of the method of an offense. For thefts this might include what was stolen, say, a bicycle. But because of its format, the Daily Crime Reports data cannot be aggregated easily nor integrated with CrimeMap data. MPD used to post arrest information but has discontinued providing this information.

Third, neighbors can find out more about crime trends or specific crimes by attending the monthly community meeting for their respective Public Safety Areas (PSAs). The table below contains the current date, time and location for PSA 106, 107 and 108 community meetings.

PSA	Date	Time	Location
106	Last Saturday of Every Month	10:00 AM	900 5th Street SE
107	First Thursday of Every Month	7:00 PM	SE Library
108	Third Thursday of Every Month	6:30 PM	First Baptist Church, 527 Kentucky Ave SE

II. Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in ANC 6B

A. What Does the Criminal Justice System Look Like in DC?

This table illustrates the sheer complexity of the criminal justice system in DC:
- There are a variety of stakeholders.
- Unlike most states and counties, various elements of the Federal Government have important roles and absolute authority over aspects of the Criminal Justice System, more so than any other facet of municipal life in the District.
- The panoply of stakeholders does not have a single, unifying chain of command.

- The sheer number of stakeholders and hand-offs among them make it difficult to track a crime from cradle to grave.
- The practice of relying on far flung Federal prisons for incarceration services exacerbates the challenge of successfully reintegrating returning offenders into the community.

B. How is MPD Organized in ANC 6B?

MPD is divided into eight organizational "districts." MPD's First District includes all of Ward 6, as well as adjacent neighborhoods to the north and west. The District is further divided into eight Police Service Areas (PSAs). Parts of three First District PSAs – 106, 107, and 108 – cover ANC 6B. The basic leadership structure of the First District, as it pertains to ANC 6B, is as follows:

Commander
Inspector
Captain (oversees PSAs 106, 107, and 108)

PSA 106 Lieutenant	PSA 107 Lieutenant	PSA 108 Lieutenant

The roster of individuals who currently hold these positions and their contact information is at http://mpdc.dc.gov/node/200982

PSAs are the core organizational entity for patrolling throughout the city, including ANC 6B. Police patrols in a given neighborhood are drawn from officers deployed to the PSA in which the neighborhood sits. PSA-based patrols are organized into three, eight-hour shifts and each shift is overseen by a Sergeant. It is our understanding that most PSA shifts within ANC 6B have somewhere between eight and 12 patrol officers. Deployments within PSAs may be adjusted by sergeants at daily roll calls based on trends, community events, and manpower. Although patrols are organized around PSAs, patrol officers respond to service calls outside of their assigned PSA.

The First District's district-wide units augment PSA patrols to respond to crime spikes and trends. The deployments of these units – which include a crime suppression team, vice unit, power shift unit, and mountain bike tactical unit – are at the discretion of the Commander of the First District. The First District also has a Warrant Squad, Detective Unit, and Automotive Unit. On occasion, citywide units may also support First District PSA patrols.

C. What Patrol Strategies does MPD Employ in ANC6B?

By most accounts, Chief Lanier and MPD leadership are committed to data-based community policing. In conversations with Taskforce members, First District leadership stressed its commitment to fair and equitable policing; *e.g.*, data dictates the deployment of resources.

Specifically, the First District allocates patrol resources to each PSA based on (1) crime data and (2) the number of service calls within each PSA. First District leadership uses a civilian crime analyst to analyze crime data and trends for resource allocation purposes. There is only one crime analyst assigned to the First District.

Within each PSA, the PSA Lieutenant allocates resources based on facts on the ground and his or her long-term strategy for the PSA. PSA Lieutenants participate in a tri-annual strategic crime briefing process, in which they are provided with a comprehensive analysis of crime data, calls for service, economic development, and human intelligence. This process serves as the basis for each Lieutenant to establish his or her strategic plan for resource allocation within the PSA.

PSAs use foot, mountain bike, and car patrols. Foot and/or mountain bike patrols make up an estimated 35% to 40% of patrols in the First District (with the remainder patrolling cars). It appears that MPD is skeptical of the efficacy of foot patrols outside of high traffic areas (e.g., Barracks Row or Chinatown), because of limits on the territory foot patrols can cover, and the inability of foot patrols to move quickly in response to a call for service. Mountain bike patrols, on the other hand, are widely-considered effective.

D. How does MPD Investigate Crimes in ANC 6B?

Under the Criminal Investigations Division of the MPD, each District falls under a separate District Investigative Branch. Each District has its own team of Detectives. ANC6B sought to understand how the First District assigns detectives to cases, the average caseload of each detective and the case closure rates for detectives operating in the First District.

The Taskforce received data for First District detectives outlining the primary case assignments, total number of cases assigned and the percentage of cases closed for 13 detectives. Of those 13, four are assigned to robberies, two are assigned to burglaries, six are assigned to general crimes, and one is assigned to office assignments. One Detective assigned to robberies also handles assault with a deadly weapon (ADW) and assault with intent to kill (AWIK) cases. These detectives' caseloads and closure rates are listed in the table below.

However, review of the provided data left the Taskforce with many questions. For example, for the caseload and closure rate supplied, what time period is covered? In what month/year were these cases assigned and in what period of time were these cases closed? Why do some detectives have significantly different caseloads than others? Why do closure rates vary so significantly? Are all crimes assigned to a detective, even when someone is arrested at the scene or nearby? What is considered a "general crime"?

Detective	Primary Case Assignment	Total Cases	Total Cases	Closure Rate

		Assigned	Cleared	
1	ADW/AWIK/Robberies	57	19	33%
2	Robberies	105	16	15%
3	Robberies	127	19	15%
4	Robberies	103	8	8%
5	Burglaries	124	35	28%
6	Burglaries	157	39	25%
7	General Crimes	107	16	15%
8	General Crimes	65	1	2%
9	General Crimes	43	26	60%
10	General Crimes	120	32	27%
11	General Crimes	19	15	80%
12	General Crimes	114	33	29%
13	Office Assignment	0	0	0

E. How does MPD use its resources citywide?

i. MPD Staffing

Approximately 4,000 officers are employed by MPD. Although the District's rate of police officers to residents exceeds that of other cities,[5] these comparisons are not particularly useful. One the one hand, MPD faces unique security challenges not faced by other cities because of the District's status as the nation's capital; on the other hand, the District is home to a myriad of federal law enforcement agencies in addition to MPD (e.g., U.S. Capitol Police, National Park Service Police, Transit Authority Police, U.S. Federal Protective Service, U.S. Secret Service).

Of note, MPD downsized its civilian staff as the result of city budget cuts during the Great Recession. It is the Taskforce's understanding that this downsizing resulted in fewer MPD civilian crime analysts, such that each MPD District now has at most one crime analyst. Additionally, 25% of current MPD Officers will become retirement eligible within the next 5-years[6]. Starting in 2009, attrition outpaced recruiting, culminating in 2011 when 168 Officers left the force and 8 entered. MPD reversed this trend in 2012 by increasing hiring and revitalizing the Police Academy pipeline, adding 310 officers against attrition of 204 Officers.[7] MPD's planned manning levels for 2013 are (unclear at this time).

ii. MPD Salaries.

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[5] Governing.com, Law Enforcement Officers Per Capita for Cities, Local Departments (available at http://www.governing.com/gov-data/safety-justice/law-enforcement-police-department-employee-totals-for-cities.html) (analysis of 2010 FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting); *see also* U.S. Dep't of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, Census of State and Local Law Enforcement Agencies, 2008 (July 2011) (available at http://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/csllea08.pdf) ("In 2008, the Washington, D.C. Metropolitan Police continued to have the highest ratio of full-time officers (634 officers per 100,000 residents) . . . .").

[6] *DC Facing Retirement Bubble that Could Slash Force,* Washington Examiner, Ben Giles, January 13, 2013.

[7] *MPD Annual Report 2012*

MPD officer salaries remain frozen at 2007 levels as a result of a long-term impasse in contract negotiations between the DC Police Union and the city. In discussions with officers, they cite the lack of a contract and related raises as major detractors to morale. As of March 2013, the Mayor committed to raising salaries for MPD, pending agreement on a new contract. However, in February 2013, the Police Union requested that the Public Employee Relations Board intercede and mediate negotiations. Because negotiations took place outside of the public eye, the reasons for the continuing impasse remain unknown. And, it is unclear when negotiations might reach conclusion. As of September 2013, negotiations formally entered into court directed arbitration.

iii. Use of Cameras.

In 2006, the MPD began using Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) cameras. MPD states that the Homeland Security Bureau's Tactical Information Division provides a list of information regarding camera locations within every police district in DC at http://mpdc.dc.gov/page/cctv-neighborhood-based-cameras. Based on this list, it appears there are two CCTV cameras in ANC6B: 15th Street & East Capitol Street, SE and K Street & Potomac Avenue SE. An informational handout about CCTVs and their benefits, usage, and suggested locations can be here: http://mpdc.dc.gov/node/214472

F. Do Law Enforcement Agencies Cooperate With Each Other?

The various law enforcement agencies within the District each have distinct missions, not all of which include community policing. Many focus on anti-terrorism and infrastructure protection, and some constrain their activities to limited geographical jurisdictions (despite having enforcement authority outside these areas). While the Taskforce found numerous examples of coordination and strong working relationships between various law enforcement units, especially between the Metro Transit Police Department and MPD, routine collaboration on crime deterrence and investigation is largely dependent on personalities and the relationships between the leadership of various units.

The September 13th, 2013 mass shooting at the Navy Yard, which is located within ANC6B's boundaries, underscored the need for effective coordination among the myriad law enforcement and protective service agencies serving in the community. Early reports suggest that a lack of clear support procedures between MPD, Navy personnel and Capitol Police might have contributed to a delayed response by elite Capitol Police response units.[8] It is not clear if these agencies plan and execute events to exercise Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for integrated command and control.

Interoperable communications also remain an unfulfilled goal of first responders in the City. The 2004 9/11 Commission Report identified the lack of interoperable first responder communications as a contributor to the loss-of-life on 9/11, recommending, "the adoption of an incident command system to strengthen teamwork in a crisis, including a regional approach. Allocate more radio spectrum and improve connectivity for public safety communications, and

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[8] *Capitol Police Thwarted from Aiding at Navy Yard*, USA Today, September 19th, 2013

encourage widespread adoption of newly developed standards for private-sector emergency preparedness….". Based on reports from personnel within MPD, communications systems are not yet interoperable.

G. What Policing Strategies Do Other Jurisdictions Employ?

Police departments around the country devise varying methods to address and prevent crime. These methods increasingly rely on data and technology. For example, MPD relies heavily on crime data analysis to make deployment decisions. ANC6B did not examine a broad spectrum of alternative policing strategies. However, based on study and Task Force recommendations, ANC6B did research one promising strategy—"predictive policing".

The predictive policing methodology began in Santa Cruz, California as a result of searches for innovative, non-traditional solutions to increasing police effectiveness in a time of declining budgets. The "Predictive Policing" methodology is based upon mathematical algorithms that assess historical crime data and indicate likely locales of criminal activity day-by-day or shift-by-shift.[9] Santa Cruz's predictive policing was an experiment that worked, with a 19 percent reduction in burglary over six months, and an initial four percent reduction of motor vehicle theft.[10]

The Santa Cruz model was then tried in Los Angeles, at first on a limited scale in the Foothill Division with a population of 300,000 to verify that it could work in that environment. Success in the first trial in Los Angeles led to an eventual expansion to cover most of the area of 1.5 million people. The Los Angeles results confirmed the value of the predictive model and resulted in a reduction of crime of 12 percent. Since that time, other departments in several states have implemented the predictive policing method with apparent success.[11] It is important to understand, however, that technology, exemplified by the predictive policing model, can increase effectiveness by supplementing the skills, intuition, and best practices of existing police—it does not replace police officers or police services. One of the main advantages of such technology is to expand the capabilities of police operations and resources already in use, and to make more effective use of those resources.

H. How is 911 Run and What is 911's Performance?

The city's 911 system is operated by the Office of Unified Communication (OUC), which also runs the city's 311 system. (911 is <u>not</u> run by MPD.)

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[9] Thompson, Kalee, "The Santa Cruz Experiment: Can a City's Crime Be Predicted and Prevented?" *Popular Science*, November 2011, pp. 38-45 (available at www.popsci.com/science/article/2011-10/santa-cruz-experiment); *see also* Jennifer Bachner, Predictive Policing: Preventing Crime with Data and Analytics (2013) (available at http://www.businessofgovernment.org/sites/default/files/Predictive%20Policing.pdf).

[10] Friend, Zack, "Predictive Policing: Using Technology to Reduce Crime," *FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin*, April 2013, www.fbi.gov/stats & services/reports & publications/LEB.

[11] Friend, "Predictive Policing," p 3.

ANC 6B residents sometimes express frustration with their experience with the District's 911 system. Indeed, the Washington Post reported on dangerous breakdowns in that system. For example, on May 5, 2013, the Post reported that a District resident was placed on hold for 67 seconds when she called 911 as a burglar broke into her home.[12] These types of anecdotes led to a recent Washington Post editorial expressing concerns about the District's 911 operations.[13]

The National Emergency Number Association (NENA) recommends that, during the busiest hour of the day, 90% of all incoming 911 calls should be answered within 10 seconds and 95% should be answered within 20 seconds. DC's 911 system meets NENA's standards, but its performance declined in the last few years, with a lower percentage of calls being answered within 5 seconds each year:[14]

Year	Percent of Calls Answered Within 5 Seconds	Call Volume
2010	97.8%	Approximately 1.3 million calls
2011	96.4%	Over 1.4 million calls
2012	93.4%	Over 1.3 million calls

Of note, since 2010, as the District population increased by 5%, and the volume of calls first rose by approximately 7% and then declined by about the same percentage, 911 staffing levels decreased:[15]

Year	Number of 911 Operators	Number of Police Dispatchers	Number of Fire/Medical Dispatchers
2010	88	81	29
2011	83	79	31
2012	75	70	32
2013	72	67	33

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[12] Martin Weil, *Unlocked Northwest D.C. houses targeted by burglars*, Wash. Post (May 5, 2013) (available at http://www.washingtonpost.com/local/unlocked-northwest-dc-houses-targeted-by-burglars/2013/05/05/b69da9f6-b5e4-11e2-b94c-b684dda07add_story.html); *see also* Editorial, *The troubles with the District's 911 response*, Wash. Post. (May 9, 2013) (available at http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/the-troubles-with-the-districts-911-response/2013/05/09/be3b14de-b812-11e2-92f3-f291801936b8_story.html).

[13] Editorial, *The troubles with the District's 911 response*, Wash. Post. (May 9, 2013) (available at http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/the-troubles-with-the-districts-911-response/2013/05/09/be3b14de-b812-11e2-92f3-f291801936b8_story.html).

[14] Lee Blackmon, President, Local R3-07, National Association of Government Employees.

[15] Lee Blackmon, President, Local R3-07, National Association of Government Employees.

Currently, 911 operators work on a 10-hour shift, with between 8 and 21 operators on duty per shift.[16] OUC management has proposed transitioning from a 10-hour shift to a 12-hour shift, in part to make a more efficient use of lower staffing levels. The union representing operators has opposed this move, arguing it "will only diminish the ability of the emergency operation employees to proficiently and consistently perform their mission critical functions," and "will result in a decrease in the quality of service delivered, which, in turn, could unintentionally, affect the safety of the visitors to the District as well as its citizens."

I.   What Services Are Available For Victims of Crimes?

Crime victims in DC also have rights codified in the *DC Crime Victims' Rights Law*, which include statutory rights to participation, notification, reasonable protection and restitution (among other rights). Residents can access an overview of victims' rights at http://ovs.dc.gov/service/victims-legal-rights.

There are a significant number of victim assistance programs in Washington, DC that serve victims who are diverse by type of crime, age, gender, geography, culture, ethnicity, and sexual orientation (among other demographics). These include:

- *Community-based programs* such as the DC Rape Crisis Center, programs for victims of domestic violence, Safe Shores Child Advocacy Center, and legal advocacy programs.
- *System-based agencies* such as Victim Services units within the Office of the U.S. Attorney, MPD and CSOSA, and the DC VINE (Victim Information and Notification Everyday) program sponsored by the Department of Corrections.

There is a wide range of services and support provided by DC's victim assistance programs, including but not limited to: assistance in implementing victims' statutory rights; advocacy throughout the justice process; crime victim compensation; crisis intervention; counseling and mental health support services; safety planning; legal advocacy; sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANE) program; and referrals to social services.

In 2012, the Mayor's Office of Victim Services initiated a Victim Assistance Network (VAN) for DC to improve coordination of the delivery of assistance and services to crime victims and survivors. For contact information about DC victim services, residents can visit the Mayor's Office of Victim Services at http://ovs.dc.gov/page/contact-someone-who-can-help. In addition, there are a number of national toll-free information and crisis lines for victims of all types of crime. A roster of these programs is included Appendix A.

J. How Does the District Manage Returning Offenders?

According to the Court Services and Offender Rehabilitation Agency (CSOSA), as of May 31, 2013, the number of offenders under supervision living in DC totaled 11,797, including 1,243 in

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[16] Lee Blackmon, President, Local R3-07, National Association of Government Employees.

the First District. Below is more detailed information about the population of returning offenders under CSOSA supervision:[17]

Demographics	
29 years old or less	31%
56 years or older	12%
Black Non-Hispanic	94%
White Non-Hispanic	2%
Hispanic	3%
Male	84%
Education – Less than HS/GED	38%
Employment Status – Employed	35%

Supervision	
Parole	16%
Probation	48%
Supervised Release	33%
Supervision Intensity	
Intensive/Max Level	40%
Active Status	61%
Have active warrant	8%
In Jail or Detailed	9%
Length of Time of Supervision	
1+ years	50%
4+ years	11%

CSOSA is a federal, executive branch agency that performs the offender supervision function for DC Offenders, in coordination with DC Superior Court and the US Parole Commission. CSOSA's mission is to increase public safety, prevent crime, reduce recidivism and support the fair administration of justice in close collaboration with the community.[18] CSOSA both monitors returning offenders and offers opportunities to help returning offenders transition into the community.

CSOSA's Transitional Intervention for Parole Supervision (TIPS) Team assesses returning inmates for risk of re-offending and need for services. The TIPS Team works closely with returning offenders who transition through a Community Corrections Center (CCC) (commonly referred to as a halfway house) operated by the Federal Bureau of Prisons. (Since December 2001, D.C. offenders serve their time in federal prisons.) The TIPS Community Supervision Officers (CSOs) work with each offender to develop a transition plan while the offender resides in a halfway house under the jurisdiction of the Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP).

A handful of other government and non-governmental agencies deliver services to individuals transitioning in to the community, for example:

- D.C. Department of Corrections (DOC). DOC is the city agency with jurisdiction over DC jails. DOC affords those in its custody rehabilitative opportunities that will assist them to constructively reintegrate into the community.

- The Visitors' Service Center (VSC). VSC offers services to adult inmates and recently released individuals returning the community.

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[17] CSOSA, Offender Profile (available at http://www.csosa.gov/about/offender-profile.aspx).
[18] CSOSA, About Us: An Overview (available at http://www.csosa.gov/about.aspx).

III. Crime and You - What Steps Can I Take to Make Myself and My Community Safer?

In the course of its effort to learn more about public safety issues in ANC 6B, the Taskforce identified several ways neighbors can help prevent crime in our neighborhood:

- Take care and pay attention when walking in the neighborhood, especially with smart phones and especially at night. Neighbors should be able to walk around our neighborhood and use their cell phones without the threat of robbery. It is certainly not the victim's fault if he or she is robbed while using a cell phone. Nonetheless, neighbors can take reasonable steps to make our neighborhood less attractive to robbers, including paying attention when walking around the neighborhood, especially when a cell phone is visible. Try to minimize walking and texting or talking on your cell phone. This decreases your level of alertness, and there have been many reports about cell phones being ripped from the hands of unsuspecting victims on Metro and on city streets. Similarly, listening to music through earbuds while walking or bike riding decreases your awareness of your environment. Please also pay particular attention to safety late in the evening. Here are some tips to keep you safe when out late at night: think twice about whether or not it's a good idea to walk home on dark and lonely streets (consider taking a cab from the Metro, even if just going a couple blocks away); call home and say that you are on your way so you will be expected (that way, the person at home will know something may be amiss if you do not arrive); walk your guests to their car when they leave; walk with your keys in your hand.

- Do not leave anything in your car. Unfortunately, leaving anything in your car may make it an appealing target for a thief.

- Call 911 if you see anything suspicious. 911 is the appropriate avenue through which to report crimes, both past and ongoing. Do not worry about overreacting – when in doubt, call 911 and let the police use their professional judgment about how to handle the situation.

- Take appropriate steps when going out of town. Notify your immediate neighbors about the dates you will be gone, and ask them to keep an eye on your house. Also provide them with your cell phone, and ask them to pick up any packages delivered to your home. Be sure to put a temporary stop on your newspaper. Leave a light on in your front hallway, and in one of your back rooms on the alley side of your house. Leave a radio on in an upstairs room, implying that someone is at home. If you like to post updates or photos about your vacation on social media websites, do so with caution. This sends a message that you are not home, so be familiar with your "security settings" and who has access to your social media accounts.

- Help your neighbors when they are out of town. If you see flyers or newspapers that are posted on your neighbor's homes or dropped on their doorsteps and you know they are away, pick them up and recycle them. If you don't know, then tuck them away out of sight of the street.

- Report all crimes. Because MPD allocates resources based on crime statistics, it is imperative that residents report all crimes, even if they do not feel like they've been harmed

or that it would result in meaningful action. Residents can report crimes on-line at: http://mpdc.dc.gov/service/file-police-report-online.

- Get to know your MPD Officers.   A key element of Community Policing is the development of a relationship between residents and Officers. MPDs shift away from foot patrols to bike patrols and other patrol methods makes this more difficult, as Officers become less accessible. To counterbalance this, residents should take the initiative to introduce themselves to Officers and work with their local leaders (ANC Commissioners, etc.) to hold forums that engender relationship building.

- Consider joining or starting an Orange Hat patrols. Capitol Hill residents began Orange Hat patrols, security walks easily identifiable by the bright, orange hats worn by participants, several decades ago. The number of active patrols declined over the past decade, but several are still active.   Info follows:

    1.Motts Community Orange Hats - Walks on Tuesdays at 700 pm and Wednesdays at noon - meeting at Motts Market at 233 12th St SE.

    2. Walks on Wednesdays from 8:30 to 9:30 PM - meeting at 11th and South Carolina.

IV. Summary of Observations

As the Taskforce conducted its work for this report, it identified several issues that it believes are worth highlighting for the community:

- MPD officers' contract. Despite recent budget surpluses, MPD officer salaries remain frozen at 2007 levels because of an impasse in contract negotiations between the city and the officers' union. Not surprisingly, this appears to have had negative impact on morale in the force.

- MPD leadership. MPD leadership employs data-driven, equitable community policing, with a focus in the ANC 6B area on preventing burglaries and robberies.

- Property crime. Property crimes in ANC 6B greatly outnumber robberies, assaults, and other violent crimes. Although MPD leadership is appropriately focused on decreasing violent crime in the city and in the First District, the Taskforce is not aware of any comprehensive strategy to address property crime and quality of life crimes.

- Seasonal Crime Spike. Analysis of the three years of available crime data supports the conventional wisdom that a yearly crime spike occurs in the late Summer and early Fall months. Despite knowing that this spike occurs every year, there does not appear to be a concerted effort to develop a strategy to combat the seasonal surge.

- Decrease in crime analysts. Despite the important role data analysis plays in allocating limited MPD resources, the number of crime analysts employed by MPD has been decreased over the last five years, such that each MPD District has at most one crime analyst.

- Reduction in the quality of crime data. Despite the ready availability of data online, critical pieces are missing that would measurably improve our understanding of crime in our neighborhoods.

- Juvenile Offender Reentry. The offender reentry programs described above are only available for adults. The Taskforce was not able to find detailed information about offender reentry programs for juveniles.

- Community Impact Statements. Community impact statements have long been touted by MPD and prosecutors as a way for neighbors to impact sentencing decisions. However, it appears that DC law may only allow community representatives and organizations to submit community impact statements, not residents.

- Inter-law enforcement agency cooperation. Interagency cooperation between the city's law enforcement agencies varies and seems highly dependent on personal relationships. Moreover, it does not appear that the various law enforcement agencies have interoperable communication systems.

Appendix A
District of Columbia and National Crime Victim Services

The DC Mayor's Office of Victim Services provides a web page with contact information for both community- and system-based crime victim services in the District of Columbia. It can be accessed at http://ovs.dc.gov/page/contact-someone-who-can-help.

In addition, there are a number of national toll-free information and crisis lines for victims of all types of crime. A roster of these programs is listed below:

National Information and Referral Resources for Crime Victim/Survivor Assistance

AGENCY	TOLL-FREE NUMBER AND TTY/TDD	HOURS OF OPERATION	WEBSITE URL
American Domestic Violence Crisis Line (for American citizens victimized abroad)	866-USWOMEN	24/7/365	www.866uswomen.org
Battered Women's Justice Project	800-903-0111	Monday – Friday 10:30 am – 6:30 pm EST	www.bwjp.org
Childhelp USA National Child Abuse Hotline	800-4-A-CHILD TDD 800-2-A-CHILD	24/7/365	www.childhelp.org
Identity Theft Hotline, Federal Trade Commission	877-ID-THEFT TTY 866-653-4261	24/7/365	www.ftc.gov/bcp/edu/microsites/idtheft/
Mothers Against Drunk Driving	877-MADD-HELP	24/7/365	www.madd.org
National Center for Missing and Exploited Children	800-843-5678 TDD 800-826-7653	24/7/365	www.missingkids.com
National Center for Victims of	N/A	N/A	www.ncvc.org

Crime			
National Children's Alliance	800-239-9950	Monday – Friday 9:00 am – 5:00 pm EST	www.nationalchildrensalliance.org/
National Crime Prevention Council	202-466-6272	Monday – Friday 8:00 am – 4:30 pm EST	www.ncpc.org
National Domestic Violence Hotline	800-799-7233 TTY Hotline 800-787-3224	24/7/365	www.thehotline.org
National Human Trafficking Hotline	888-373-7888	24/7/365	www.polarisproject.org/
National Organization for Victim Assistance	800-879-6682	Monday – Friday 9:00 am – 5:00 pm EST	www.trynova.org
National Organization of Parents Of Murdered Children, Inc.	888-818-POMC	Monday – Friday 8:00 am – 5:00 pm EST	www.pomc.com
National Resource Center on Domestic Violence	800-537-2238 TTY Hotline 800-553-2508	Monday – Friday 8:00 am – 5:00 pm EST	www.nrcdv.org
National Sexual Violence Resource Center	877-739-3895 TTY 717-909-0715	Monday, Thursday, Friday 9:00 am – 5:00 pm EST Tuesday and Wednesday 9:00 am – 8:00 pm EST	www.nsvrc.org
National Teen Dating Abuse Helpline	866-331-9474 TTY 866-331-8453	24/7/365	www.loveisrespect.org
Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network	800-656-4673	24/7/365	www.rainn.org

Resource Center on DV: Child Protection and Custody	800-527-3223	Monday – Friday 11:00 am – 8:00 pm EST	www.nnedv.org/resources/ nationalorgs/59-national-organizations/5-rcdvcpc.html
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration	800-729-6686 TDD Hotline 800-487-4889 Español 877-767-8432 Treatment Referral Line: 800-662-4357 Suicide Prevention Hotline: 800-273-8255	24/7/365	www.samhsa.gov/

Safety Planning

All community- and system-based victim assistance programs in DC can either assist victims with safety planning, or refer them to a local agency/organization that can help them. Local and national resources for safety planning include the following:

- District Alliance for Safe Housing, "Safety Planning"
  http://www.dashdc.org/dv-info/creating-a-safety-plan/

- Metropolitan Police Department, "Making a Personalized Domestic Violence Safety Plan"
  http://mpdc.dc.gov/publication/making-personalized-domestic-violence-safety-plan

- Office of the Attorney General, "Safety Tips"
  http://oag.dc.gov/DC/OAG/Services+for+the+Community/Neighborhood+and+Victim+Services/Safety+Tips

- Justice Solutions, "Home Security for Victims of Crime"
  http://www.justicesolutions.org/art_pub_home_security_for_victims_.htm

- National Network to End Domestic Violence, "Technology Safety Planning"
  http://www.nnedv.org/resources/safetynetdocs.html