

**Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6E
Emergency Special Meeting – Shaw Shootings
Wednesday, October 9, 2019**

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6E convened an Emergency Special Meeting in response to recent Shaw Shootings at the Watha T. Daniel/Shaw Library, 1630 7th Street, NW, Washington, DC, on Wednesday, October 9, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

Present:

Alexander M. Padro, ANC 6E01
Michael J. Brown, Treasurer, ANC 6E02 (arrived at 7:05 p.m.)
Frank S. Wiggins, Vice Chair, ANC 6E03
Rachelle Nigro, Secretary, ANC 6E04
Alex Marriott, Chair, ANC 6E05
Kevin M. Rogers, ANC 6E07

Absent:

Alvin Judd, ANC 6E06

Others Present:

Lamar Greene, MPD Patrol Chief, Patrol Services North
Stuart Emerman, MPD Third District Commander
Captain Han Kim, MPD PSA 308
Lt. J. P. Ross, MPD PSA 308
Captain Judith Mack, MPD Third District
DC Councilmember Charles Allen
Various representatives of Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services (MOCRS) and Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement (ONSE)

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. and the presence of a quorum was noted. Chair Alex Marriott presided.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: Commissioner Wiggins moved and Commissioner Padro seconded that the Agenda be approved with presentations first from MPD and, secondly, from Councilmember Charles Allen. The Motion **passed** unanimously, 5 yeas (Commissioners Marriott, Padro, Wiggins, Rogers, Nigro) – 0 nays – 0 abstentions. [Commissioner Brown had not yet arrived].

III. PRESENTATION – METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

Lamar Greene, MPD Patrol Chief, Patrol Services North, provided a slide presentation, highlights of which follow:

Citywide Calls for Service 2010-2018 – 120,000; Response time was 6 minutes, 40 seconds; Today it is 5 minutes, and 20 seconds.

Citywide Crime Statistics – 2018 vs. 2019 (as of October 8)			
Offense	2018	2019	% Change
Homicide	122	131	7%
Sex Abuse	234	162	-31%
Assault w/Dangerous Weapon	1,300	1,249	-4%
Robbery	1,527	1,671	9%
Violent Crime - Total	3,183	3,213	1%
Burglary	1,114	985	-12%
Motor Vehicle Theft	1,901	1,720	-10%
Theft from Auto	8,500	7,934	-7%
Theft	10,778	11,594	8%
Arson	3	7	133%
Property Crime - Total	22,296	22,240	0%
All Crime - Total	25,473	25,453	0%

Citywide Gun Shot Wound Victims			
Gun Shot Wound Victims – Homicide, ADW, and Robbery (January 1 – September 29, 2017-2019)			
Offense Type	2017 (YTD)	2018 (YTD)	2019 (YTD)
Homicide - Fatal	62	88	102
Homicide – Non-fatal*	22	18	29
Assault with a Dangerous Weapon	322	327	374
Robbery	16	13	22
Grand Total	422	446	527
Fatality%	14.7%	19.7%	19.4%

*Surviving GSW victims in homicide cases

Illegal Gun Possession vs. Violent Crime Offenses

A study of the criminal histories of those arrested for illegal gun possession and those arrested for violent gun offenses by the Boston Police Department finds that **“illegal gun possessors are as involved in crime as those who were arrested for gun violence – murder, robbery, and assault.”** They conclude that illegal gun possession cases are thus “worth taking seriously because a high percentage of those arrested are in practice at risk of using their guns in crime.”

Recidivism Rates Among Firearm Offenders

A June 2019 report by the U.S. Sentencing Commission on recidivism among federal firearms offenders found that **“Firearms offenders generally recidivated at a high rate, recidivated more quickly following release into the community, and continued to recidivate later in life than non-firearms offenders.”** They also find that “a greater percentage of firearms offenders were rearrested for serious crimes than non-firearms offenders.”

Citywide Gun Recoveries by District – January 1 – September 29			
Number of Gun Recoveries by District			
District	2018 (Total CY)	2018 (YTD*)	2019 (YTD)
1D	171	138	117
2D	57	35	76
3D	141	99	144
4D	176	145	177
5D	245	192	298
6D	404	300	374
7D	543	431	450
Total	1,737	1,340	1,636

In 2019 YTD, 49% of MPD's firearms recoveries occurred in 6D or 7D.

*Year-to-date (YTD) is as of September 29. Statistics are preliminary and subject to change.

Currently, the consequences for carrying a firearm in Washington, DC are not deterring this behavior. We are seeing a small group of repeat violent offenders continue to carry and use firearms throughout the District.

The **District of Columbia Sentencing Commission** voted to decrease sentences for felons convicted of illegally possessing a gun in the District and to reduce the impact of prior felon-in-possession convictions on any future sentence an offender might incur.

- *Repeat offenders who have committed gun crimes will be back on the street sooner, once again endangering our community.*

Incarceration Reduction Amendment Act (IRAA)

- The Council recently passed legislation that allows people who have committed the most serious violent crimes in DC to apply for early release from jail if they were under 18 at the time of the crime – and have served 15 years of their sentence.
 - *So far, 22 people have petitioned: 21 have been granted early release and 1 was made immediately eligible for parole.*
- The legislation does not take into consideration the experiences of the victims, and directs judges not to consider the nature of the underlying offense.
- As police officers, we work with victims and their substantial trauma every day. We understand why they feel this law has left them powerless.
- The Council is looking to expand the age at the time of crime to those committing heinous violence at age 24 or younger.
- The Washington Post analyzed data and found that 85% of the more than 580 offenders who would become eligible were convicted of murder, manslaughter, or sex assault.

MPD’s Budget

- Mayor Bowser’s top budget priority is for MPD to reach 4,000 sworn officers.
- MPD currently has about 3,800 officers.
- The Council cut \$2.2 million from our FY20 personnel budget that the Mayor had proposed for additional hiring.

Extreme Risk Protection Orders (“Red Flag” Laws)

- In 2018, the Council passed new legislation to establish an Extreme Risk Protection Order (ERPO).
- An ERPO allows family members or those in a relationship, mental health professionals, and MPD to petition the court for an order to surrender firearms based on information that the owner poses a significant danger to themselves or others.
- This provides immunity for the subject of being charged with gun possession and registration crimes, as already existed in the law for people who voluntarily surrender a firearms to MPD.
- MPD has filed one ERPO so far.
- MPD will continue to handle illegal firearm cases using existing laws and processes which tend to be faster than using multiple petitions to ensure expedient removal of a firearm from dangerous situations.

Gun Trafficking Laws

Currently, trafficking guns is treated no more seriously than carrying an illegal gun in the District. There is nothing to deter people from making money by selling the guns that are terrorizing our neighborhoods.

The Council did not move the Mayor and MPD’s proposed legislation to enhance gun trafficking laws by:

- Establishing specific offenses with higher penalties for having guns with no serial numbers or stolen guns, two hallmarks of gun trafficking.
- Enhancing the penalty for illegal sales of guns, which has a current penalty of no more than one year.

ANC 6E (Third District)

Year-to-Date Crime Comparison

January 1 – October 7, 2018 vs. 2019

Offense	2018	2019
Homicide	1	0
Assault with a Dangerous Weapon	13	13
Robbery	24	34
Violent Crime - Total	38	47

3D’s Strategy to Address Violent Crime Increase in ANC 6E

- Increase foot beat, bicycle, and Segway deployments.
- Deployed the Criminal Interdiction Unit.
- Incorporated overtime and Crime Suppression Teams from around the City.
- Transitioned a crime camera to the area.

- Heightened outreach to local businesses, residents, and property managers to discuss violent crime issues and general concerns.

If You See Something, Say Something

- **Be Aware.** It's critical to report any suspicious activity to MPD.
- **Call 3-1-1 and Report Issues.**
- **Private Security Camera System Incentive Program.** If you have questions about the rebate or voucher program, contact security.cameras@dc.gov or 202-727-5124.
- **Stay in the Know!** Follow MPD on Twitter, Instagram, Facebook, etc.

Stuart Emerman, MPD Third District Commander reported the following:

- In the past week and half, there have been three major crimes in Shaw – a homicide and two shootings. All of these are currently under investigation by MPD detectives. He is hopeful for more progress.
- In the meantime, MPD has gotten approval for overtime for officers in cars, scooters, bicycles, and plain clothes to be deployed in the 7th Street Corridor as far as O Street, NW. They are out moving around and engaging the community.
- Each district has a Crime Suppression Team; a portable camera was moved to 7th and S Streets, NW;
- He urged residents to look into the Mayor's Camera Rebate Program; Nest cameras are good. MPD is doing outreach to the public and residents.
- Juvenile Crime is very big here; we need to reach these kids; fear of the judicial court system is not there for these kids;
- 3D crimes are posted on Yahoo;
- We need the community's help; hopefully we can get the guns off the street.

IV. PRESENTATION - COUNCILMEMBER CHARLES ALLEN

Councilmember Charles Allen stated the following:

- He Chairs the Committee on Judiciary and Public Safety; the Committee has taken the following steps in the last two years:
 - Expanded the senior police officer program;
 - Tripled the funding for neighborhood safety engagement;
 - Looked at our laws – DC has the toughest laws on the books; increased penalties for extended magazine clips;
 - Also worked with the "Cure the Violence" model;
- Short-Term Strategies:
 - Put in more light towers and cameras;
 - He initiated the private security camera program;
 - Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement (ONSE) – the funding for this went into effect about a week ago;
 - We are great partners with MPD; the Incarceration Reduction Amendment Act (IRAA) – judges do take into consideration the experiences of victims and survivors; individuals that have been released have not committed crimes again.
 - Guns that have been recovered – 2,100 now; we have a divided system – prosecutors vs. legislative.

- Red Flag Law – he initiated this – this helps get guns off the streets; ours focuses on illegal guns.

V. Q&A/COMMENT PERIOD

A. Commissioners:

1. **Alexander Padro:**

- Represented the community for 19 years;
- Community was the “Wild, Wild West” before, but was able to get crime down to a dull roar;
- Had dedicated foot beats on 7th Street engaging everyone; they were invaluable in being able to have a neighborhood where our residents could feel comfortable going out day or night; at the beginning of this year, MPD stopped putting foot beats on the streets; there are now young people smoking marijuana and urinating and defecating in the streets; there is an increase in drug interactions taking place in broad daylight – now seeing crews; this sense of lawlessness has to be brought under control;
- We had a community policing model – Officer Berlin was a great foot beat cop – used to call him “Robo Cop”; we need more “robo cops”;
- 3D has deployed foot beats again, but he has not seen them;
- Need a visible presence of officers on foot!
- Need to get more involved in providing Victim Impact Statements;
- Would like all of us to ask MPD to bring back foot beats that the community can see on a regular basis;

MPD Response: There are more foot beats and cameras in 3D; 200 more officers to be on the foot beats per the Mayor.

2. **Rachelle Nigro:**

- In a statement directed to Councilmember Allen, Commissioner Nigro stated that DPR has a lousy partnership with the community, i.e., the Kennedy Recreation Center; activity at New York Avenue and Kirby Street; this is government-owned land and nothing is being done; do something with DPR!

Councilmember Allen Response: You are correct.

3. **Frank Wiggins:**

- Thanks to Councilmember Allen and MPD for their responsiveness;
- “When You See Something, Say Something;” Thanks to Captain Kim for having the camera installed at 7th & S Streets, NW;
- Thanks to Councilmember Allen for the Incarceration Reduction Amendment Act (IRAA);
- Need to find solutions to the problems.

4. **Alex Marriott:**

- Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement (ONSE): What is the best way to intervene with kids to change their behavior?
Councilmember Allen Response: We react after a crime happens; we have to act before it happens; crimes come out of desperation and trauma that has been experienced; MPD has been incredibly helpful, but we can't expect them to do everything.

B. Audience:

1. There has been a surge in lawlessness in the last 5 to 10 years, particularly on the weekends, at 5th & U Streets, NW;
2. A resident stated she is more concerned about Assaults with Dangerous Weapons;
3. A business owner stated his neighbors live in fear – need to support MPD – need more \$ for MPD – MPD needs more resources;
4. “Moms Demand Action” – Thanks to Councilmember Allen and ANC 6E for taking action, but wants to caution about becoming a police state; all organizations need to work together; asked MPD what it is doing about keeping schools safe? MPD Response: “Safe Passage” program; school resource officers at every school.
5. The crime problem was perpetuated by the Council's legalization of marijuana use in the home;
6. The Mayor and Chief of Police should have been here, not second and third tier level officers;
7. Is MPD out 24/7? If so, why can't they recognize the offenders?
8. Crime is a systemic problem – all segments need to be funded; need conflict resolution; the private sector should ante up;

VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Marriott announced two upcoming meetings in response to the Shaw Shootings:

Thursday, October 9, 2019, 6:00 p.m., United House of Prayer, 1721 7th Street, NW

Monday, October 21, 2019, 7:00 p.m., New Bethel Baptist Church, 1739 9th Street, NW

VII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: There being no further business to come before the Commission, Commissioner Padro moved and Commissioner Nigro seconded that the meeting be adjourned. The Motion **passed** unanimously, 6 yeas (Commissioners Marriott, Padro, Wiggins, Nigro, Brown, and Rogers) – 0 nays – 0 abstentions. The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.