

**PRESIDENT CLINTON ANNOUNCES GUN BUYBACK PARTNERSHIP
WITH THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

April 28, 2000

Today, President Clinton, joined by District of Columbia Mayor Williams, Metropolitan Police Chief Ramsey, and Housing Secretary Cuomo, will announce a new gun buyback partnership between the District of Columbia and the Department of Housing and Urban Development. Under the initiative – the largest ever in D.C. and one of the largest ever in the country – a total of \$350,000 will be made available to purchase an estimated 7,000 guns through a local gun buyback program jointly administered by the Washington Public Housing Authority and the Metropolitan Police Department. In addition, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms will trace all guns recovered in the buyback. A total of 85 communities across the country are now participating in the first round of HUD's BuyBack America program to launch similar local gun buyback programs and to take tens of thousands of unwanted guns out of circulation. Today's initiative is part of a comprehensive effort by the Clinton Administration to provide more tools for communities to reduce gun violence, and to advance common sense gun safety legislation to keep guns out of the wrong hands.

TAKING THOUSANDS OF GUNS OUT OF CIRCULATION IN WASHINGTON. In the wake of the recent shooting at the National Zoo, President Clinton today will announce a major partnership between the federal government and the District of Columbia to fund the largest gun buyback in the city's history. Under today's partnership, HUD's BuyBack America program will provide \$100,000 and the Metropolitan Police Department will provide \$250,000 to fund the buyback, which will be held June 23rd and 24th. The District of Columbia Public Housing Authority will partner with the Metropolitan Police Department to conduct the buyback, which will fund the purchase of an estimated 7,000 guns and take them off the street and out of circulation permanently. Last August, the Metropolitan Police Department conducted two successful buybacks. The first, funded in part by HUD, yielded 600 guns; the second, 2,300 guns. According to an ATF report on the buybacks, the vast majority of firearms recovered (2,200) were handguns, and far exceeded the District's average annual recovery rate of 2,105 crime guns. Among the firearms frequently recovered were the types of guns often used in crimes and illegally trafficked by unlicensed dealers.

PROVIDING RESOURCES TO FUND BUYBACKS ACROSS THE COUNTRY. A recent study released by HUD shows that people living in public housing are more than twice as likely to suffer from gun-related victimization as the general population. And while gun crime is down by 35 percent since 1992, nearly 12 children are still killed every day by gunfire. To help reduce the toll of gun violence, President Clinton last September unveiled a \$15 million HUD gun buyback initiative – the largest gun buyback program in history. Under the first round of the BuyBack America Initiative, HUD is providing funding to a total of 85 communities to enable Public Housing Authorities (PHAs) to partner with local law enforcement agencies to conduct local gun buyback

programs. By reducing the number of firearms in circulation, buyback programs can help prevent accidental shootings, gun suicides, gun crime and unauthorized gun use. The HUD buyback program encourages a cap of \$50 for each working gun, and encourages PHAs to provide the awards in the form of gift certificates for goods or services rather than cash. Every HUD-sponsored buyback must be run by a local police department – with no amnesty given for any crimes committed with returned firearms. And to ensure permanent removal from circulation, all guns are destroyed unless they are relevant to an ongoing law enforcement investigation, or they have been stolen from their lawful owner.

WORKING WITH D.C. LAW ENFORCEMENT TO COMBAT GUN CRIME. Today's initiative is another example of efforts by the federal government and the District of Columbia to work together to combat gun crime. Under innovative programs such as Operation Ceasefire, which has received nearly \$1 million in federal funding since 1995, local police are partnering with the U.S. Attorney and the ATF to increase gun enforcement and gun crime prevention programs. Also, through the Administration's Youth Crime Gun Interdiction Initiative, local police are working with the ATF to trace all crime guns recovered in the District to crack down on illegal gun traffickers that supply guns to juveniles and criminals.

KEEPING UP PRESSURE TO ENACT COMMON SENSE GUN LEGISLATION. In addition to announcing these new tools to combat gun violence, the President will again emphasize the importance of common sense gun measures that can reduce gun violence by keeping guns out of the wrong hands. Noting that the Congress missed an opportunity to pass gun safety legislation by the April 20th anniversary of the Columbine shootings, the President will urge Congress to complete work on juvenile crime legislation and pass a final bill that closes the gun show loophole, requires child safety locks for handguns, bars the importation of large capacity ammunition clips, and bans violent juveniles from owning guns for life.

WASHINGTON, DC GUN BUYBACK FACT SHEET

Guns in circulation in the United States

There are an estimated 230 million firearms in circulation in the United States, and 4.5 million more are sold on the market each year.

Types of gun recovered in the District's two buybacks last year

Of the 2,912 guns recovered in the District's buybacks last year, 2,200 (75.5%) were handguns, 596 (20.5%) were long guns, and 116 (3.98%) were in categories classified as "other" (black powder guns, antique guns, etc.).

Washington, DC gun ban

In 1976, the District of Columbia passed legislation banning civilian possession of handguns.

Total Crime Guns in Washington, DC

In the past five years, the recovery of firearms associated with crimes has average 2,105 per year – the buyback took 2,912 firearms off the streets within days.

1994	2,590
1995	2,134
1996	2,304
1997	1,741
1998	1,749

Types of guns recovered

Among the firearms most recovered by the buyback program were types of guns that are frequently used in crimes, illegally trafficked by unlicensed dealers, and recovered in crimes by law enforcement agencies. Included in these are three of the most frequently recovered and traced crime firearms in America -- the Raven .25 pistol, the Davis .380 pistol, and the Jennings .22 pistol. Smith & Wesson .38 caliber revolvers, which accounted for 122 firearms, are also among the most commonly recovered firearms. Together, they account for 114 of the buyback guns. These firearms are also consistently among the most frequently recovered firearms used in crimes in the District.

The study identified 264 different firearms manufacturers. The most common manufacturer was Harrington and Richardson, and accounted for more than 10% of all recovered guns. The ten

most recovered manufacturer's firearms accounted for 1,268 of the recovered firearms, more than 43% of the total. The top ten types of recovered firearms were: Harrington & Richardson (142), Rohm .22 (142), Smith & Wesson .38 caliber (122), Harrington & Richardson .22 revolver (74), Raven Arms .25 pistol (74), RG Industries .22 revolver (69), Iver Johnson .32 revolver (57), Smith & Wesson .32 revolver (53), Colt .38 revolver (50), F.I.E. pistol (39). Among that group, the Raven Arms is the most frequently associated with crimes. The RG industries .22 was the gun used to shoot President Reagan and Jim Brady -- not manufactured since 1987. In addition to these models, Davis and Jennings pistols were also frequently recovered by the buybacks and are also common crime guns.

ATF's investigative actions

ATF traced every gun from the District's gun buyback program. The buyback resulted in the recovery of 45 guns (41 were handguns) that had been reported stolen from 17 states, and 63 guns with obliterated serial numbers. Attempts have been made by the ATF to raise the serial numbers on those weapons in order to track down the illegal traffickers who sold them. However, no further information is available on those open investigations. In addition, ballistics testing is being conducted on all of the weapons, and has not been completed and no information about crimes committed with any of the buyback weapons has been reported based on the tests.

Gun Tracing Results

Of the 2,556 trace results that had been received by the completion of the study, the ATF could only trace 746 of the guns back to the original retail dealer. Of those 746 traces, there were 273 firearms for which the dealers disposition could not be determined. The fully successful rate for traces, when the record of sale to a nonlicensed purchaser was obtained, was very low, 423 or 17%.

- Unscrupulous gun dealer in Missouri sells nearly 1,500 guns "off the books." Hundreds of them are sold to 2 middlemen.
- The two middlemen sell the guns at gun shows in Missouri, Tennessee and Kentucky.
- A youth counselor in Nashville, TN goes to the gun shows and buys 200-300 firearms from the two middlemen on a few separate occasions.
- The youth counselor, who is originally from Washington, D.C., takes the guns back to Washington, D.C. and sells them to juveniles, crack gangs and other criminals.
- The ATF got a lead on the case generated by their gun tracing efforts in Washington, D.C. when they began showing up in crimes. Of the first 6 guns sold by this trafficker that showed up in crimes in the District, 5 were in the hands of juveniles.
- To date, 128 of these illegally trafficked guns have shown up in crimes in the District and throughout the nation. Of the initial 28 recovered in the District, 19 were found in the possession of children from crimes including murder, attempted murder, armed assault, drugs and burglary.
- Both the gun dealer and the trafficker were sent to jail. The dealer has been released, but the trafficker is in prison.
- In one instance, a gun was used in an unusual homicide: One man shot another man on the street. The ambulance picked up the victim. The shooter walked up to the ambulance, and shot the victim. Then the ambulance pulled away. Further down the street, the ambulance pulled over to work on the patient. The gunman walked up again to the ambulance, shot an EMT, and then killed the victim on the stretcher.

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U.S. Department of Justice
United States Attorney
District of Columbia

Judiciary Center
555 Fourth St. N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001

FAX

To: Deanna Bennis
From: Channing Phillips
Fax: 456-7028
Phone: 514-6933
Date: April 27, 2000
Re: requested information
Page(s): 1 including cover

COMMENTS:

As requested, the following is a breakdown of our federal gun prosecutions by fiscal year. These were cases brought under either under 18 USC 922 or 924:

Fiscal Year	Number of filings
2000	90 (so far)
1999	132
1998	127
1997	126
1996	90
1995	52
1994	106
1993	93
1992	105

26% increase

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United States Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia		
FUNDING FOR GUN INITIATIVES		
FISCAL YEAR	NAME OF PROJECT	DOLLAR AMOUNT
1995	OPERATION CEASEFIRE	\$968,000
1995	SAFE STREETS	\$166,000
2000	Firearms Funding	\$219,400 (2 Atorneys, equipment)
1998	Violent Crime Reduction*	\$1,972,500 (for all cases)
1999	Violent Crime Reduction*	\$5,701,400
2000	Violent Crime Reduction*	\$5,736,400

*These funds are associated with the Violent Crimes Reduction Trust Fund positions which support a variety of litigation in the District of Columbia, including prosecution of gun cases, gangs, sex offenses, domestic violence and community prosecution. Resources from our annual appropriation also support gun cases, community prosecution, as well as other mission responsibilities of this Office.



U.S. Department of Justice
United States Attorney
District of Columbia

Judiciary Center
555 Fourth St. N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001

FAX

To: DEANNE BENOS From: DEBRA LONG-DOYLE
Fax: 456-7028 Phone: 514-6930
Date: April 27, 2000
Re: OPERATION CEASEFIRE TEN POINT PLAN
Page(s): 4 including cover

COMMENTS:

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

- Federal prosecutors prosecute both local cases + federal cases
- Local system has a "superior court" with its own criminal code, (different from FD)
- Also prosecute in federal courts

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[COPS
ODP Bantz]

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Michael Wilk
hms program



NOV 15th 1999
Kickoff



Operation Ceasefire Ten Point Plan

- Expansion of our Community Prosecution initiative to include all police districts within the District of Columbia *(announced in August, completed in Dec 1999)* *H. J. Williams*
- Creation and staffing of a new Gang Prosecution and Intelligence Section
- Increased prosecution of firearms violations in the United States District Court
- Utilization and support of ATF's newly created Regional Gun Crime Center
- Modification of the existing debriefing program to require certain defendants to submit to mandatory debriefings as a condition to receiving a plea offer
- Heightened enforcement of probation and parole conditions applicable to violent chronic offenders
- Implementation of the Conditions of Release Enforcement Program (CORE)
- Design and implementation of a comprehensive media campaign to increase public awareness of gun-related crime and violence
- Expansion of school and community-based programs aimed at preventing youth participation in drug trafficking and gun violence
- Long-term planning with city leaders within the framework of the Department's National Institute of Justice SACS (Strategic Approaches to Community Safety Initiatives) program

What can you do to
stop gun violence?

The message of **OPERATION CEASEFIRE** is simple — the community will not tolerate guns and gun violence. Too many loved ones have lost their lives to senseless violence in the streets of our city. It is time for the community to take a stand and help end the violence.

OPERATION CEASEFIRE depends on you — each and every member of the community must play a role in ending gun violence. We can save lives by reporting illegal guns.

ATF and MPD have established a 1-800 telephone line to offer information about illegal guns in the District of Columbia. You may report an illegal gun anonymously.

**SAVE A LIFE...
REPORT ILLEGAL GUNS**

**CALL CEASEFIRE AT
1-800-ATF-GUNS**

**ANY TIME. ANY DAY.
24 HOURS A DAY.**

**Save a life...
report illegal guns**

**HELP END
THE
VIOLENCE**

**CALL CEASEFIRE AT
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**ANY TIME. ANY DAY.
24 HOURS A DAY**

You may report an illegal gun anonymously



**OPERATION
CEASEFIRE**



**United States Attorney's Office
for the District of Columbia**



**Bureau of Alcohol,
Tobacco and Firearms**



Metropolitan Police Department

OPERATION CEASEFIRE is a comprehensive law enforcement and prevention program to reduce gun violence in the District of Columbia. **OPERATION CEASEFIRE** began in 1995, and was expanded in November, 1999. The program includes ten key components:

- 1 Expansion of Community Prosecution to include all police districts within the District of Columbia;
- 2 Creation and staffing of a new Gang Prosecution and Intelligence Section;
- 3 Increased prosecution of firearms violations in United States District Court;
- 4 Utilization and support of ATF's newly created Regional Crime Gun Center;
- 5 Modification of the existing debriefing program to require certain defendants to submit to mandatory debriefings as a condition to receiving a plea offer;
- 6 Heightened enforcement of probation and parole conditions applicable to violent chronic offenders;
- 7 Implementation of the Conditions of Release Enforcement Program (CORE);
- 8 Design and implementation of a comprehensive media campaign to increase public awareness of gun-related crime and violence;
- 9 Expansion of school and community-based programs aimed at preventing youth participation in drug trafficking and gun violence;

Long-term planning with city leaders within the framework of the Department of Justice's National Institute of Justice SACSII (Strategic Approaches to Community Safety Initiatives) program.

THE TRAGIC COST OF GUN VIOLENCE

In the District of Columbia, there are no retail outlets for firearms sales, no licensed gun dealers or importers of any kind and no firearms manufacturing facilities. The District of Columbia has the strictest set of local firearms laws in the country, prohibiting the sale, acquisition, possession, carrying and use of almost all firearms in Washington, D.C. And yet, by even the most conservative estimates, thousands of illegal firearms continue to be present in the District every day, and firearms-related violence exacts a terrible and continuing toll on the lives of the people who live and work in the city.

- ☐ For African American and Hispanic males under the age of 25, firearms are the leading cause of death.
- ☐ In 1999, 188 persons were killed by guns in the District of Columbia.
- ☐ In 1999, 957 persons suffered non-fatal firearm assaults in the District of Columbia

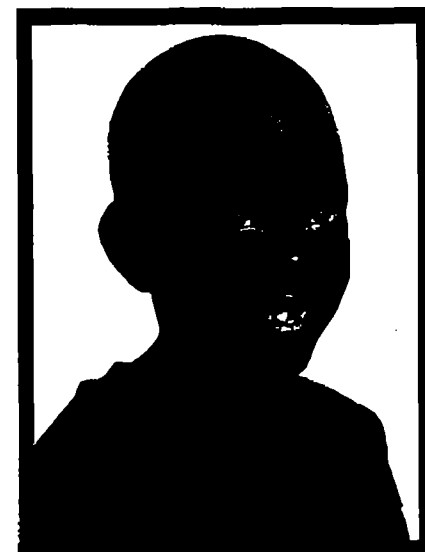
**SAVE A LIFE . . .
REPORT ILLEGAL GUNS**

**CALL CEASEFIRE AT
1-800-ATF-GUNS**

SSI G . . . F EVER Dennis K. Ashton, Jr.,

Dennis K. Ashton, Jr. was seven years old when he was tragically shot and killed. On June 27, 1997, Dennis was a passenger in a car in the parking lot of the Popeye Restaurant in the 4000 block of Benning Road when he was struck by a bullet in the head. He was killed by a criminal with an illegal gun in the District of Columbia.

For Dennis K. Ashton, Jr.'s mother, father and family, as well as for this entire community, Dennis is **missing — forever.**



Dennis K. Ashton, Jr.
Shot dead by a criminal with an illegal gun.

*Help end the violence.
Save a life —
Report illegal guns.*

CALL CEASEFIRE AT 1-800-ATF-GUNS

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PAGE 01

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*Unpublished
article but
included S good
data*

The inform
informatic
reader of
dissemina
received 6
original m

Name: Margret

Date: 4/27/00

From: Vincent

Fax # (202) 50

*→ Fax #
456-7028
TO LeAnne +
DeAnn
From Grace*

Notes: Dear Margret: Here's an op-ed piece I submitted to the Outlook Section of the Post. I don't know if it will be published or not, that's always a crap shoot, but I thought you and the Mayor would find some of the data contained in it useful. In addition to the info we put in this piece, we also found that less than 1% of the homicide arrests in DC in 1998 (2 out of 260) occurred in Police District 2.

On another matter, we should find out about the money from the Soros Foundation tomorrow. All indications are good at this point, so I'm cautiously optimistic. Thanks for your patience, Vinny.

Total number of pages including cover sheet: 5

If you have any trouble receiving this, please call (202) 678-9282

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While there's an understandable inclination to lament the rise in juvenile crime following the recent shooting at the National Zoo, most DC residents would be surprised to learn that violent juvenile crime has declined sharply here over the past decade. Vincent Schiraldi and Jason Ziedenberg of the Justice Policy Institute contend that lessons learned in DC during the 1990s about reducing juvenile crime may point the District and other cities around the country in some promising directions.

By Vincent Schiraldi and Jason Ziedenberg

In the wake of the tragic shootings at the National Zoo, there's an understandable, even natural, inclination for people to ponder why juvenile crime seems to be increasing without end. While the search for answers to the thorny problem of violence in America and in DC, by adults and by kids, is a worthwhile one, it would be wrong to conclude that juveniles in the District are becoming more violent. Although it might be hard for some to believe, the drop in youth crime in our Nation's Capitol during the 1990s says a lot more about what has gone right than what has gone wrong here, and offers some important lessons about how the District can become an even safer place.

Homicides by youth have been falling and falling sharply in DC, as they have been throughout the country. Despite a recent poll showing that two thirds of Americans believe that juvenile crime is on the increase, there has been a 56% decline in juvenile homicides since 1993. According to data from the Metropolitan Police Department and the FBI, juvenile homicide arrests in DC have dropped by 2/3 since 1990, from 69 in 1990, down to 23 in 1998. Between 1993 and 1998, juvenile arrests for aggravated assault declined by 45% and youth arrests for armed robbery and attempted armed robbery fell by 48%. In all, violent youth crime arrests dropped by 38% since 1993, and there have been similar declines in arrests for non-violent youth offenses. The tragedy at the zoo notwithstanding, youth violence is not the epidemic it was even six years ago, when DC earned the dubious title of America's "murder capitol."

There are several factors and homegrown solutions that have contributed to the good news about juvenile crime in the District. First, there have been local improvements in job creation, employment and wages. Though the city's unemployment rate is still higher than the national average, unemployment in DC dropped from 8.6% in 1993 to 5.9% today. This means that nearly a third fewer people are unemployed today than in 1993. Coupled with increases in the minimum wage, the financial picture for the District's teenagers and their families has improved considerably, although it still has a long way to go to achieve parity with the rest of the country. It's not surprising that such a massive change in the financial picture for families would be accompanied by substantial drops in youth and adult crime.

Second, the decline in gun deaths in the District was helped along when our neighbors in Maryland and Virginia enacted more effective gun laws. The District's prohibition on the private ownership and use of handguns has often been frustrated as neighboring states continued to flood the city with weapons. But the "one-gun-a-month" laws that have

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been enacted in Virginia and Maryland have made a big difference here. A study in the early 1990s found that when Virginia still allowed multiple gun sales, guns bought in Virginia made up the majority of the traceable guns seized in crimes occurring in New York City, Boston and the District of Columbia. Prompted by this research, Virginia passed a law which limited purchases of guns to one a month in 1995, effectively choking off the profitability of black market resales for Virginia guns. The black market is a major source of guns for juveniles who are prohibited from making legal, gun store purchases. Since Virginia passed its one-gun-a-month law, Boston, New York, and DC have experienced substantial drops in gun killings.

A year after the Virginia law was passed, Maryland, which still allowed multiple gun sales, supplanted Virginia as the number one supplier of guns seized in the District. After a stormy battle with the NRA, Maryland passed its own "one-gun-a-month" law in 1997. In the following 12 months, the number of Maryland guns seized in Washington dropped from 20 to zero. And youth homicide rates in the District have been dropping ever since.

Finally, some might find it ironic to note that the 67% decline in juvenile homicides has occurred at a time when the District was actually decreasing the number of youthful offenders it put behind bars. During the 1990s, the juvenile justice system in Washington, DC has taken a rational approach to addressing youth crime that has reaped some impressive benefits.

In 1990, DC locked up 450 youths, mostly for non-violent offenses, in three juvenile institutions that were the shame of our community. In 1993, an Act of Congress closed one of them, and in 1996, a judge who was indignant at the scandalous conditions under which youths were imprisoned closed another. The number of kids locked up in the District fell by nearly 80%, down to about 95 youths incarcerated today.

What grew out of that crisis was the uniting of some unusual forces in government and the community, many of which had been across the table as litigants. Public defenders, prosecutors, staff of the District's juvenile justice system, court personnel and service providers worked together throughout the 1990s to develop a continuum of care for youths who have gotten in trouble with the law.

To be sure, some of the more violent and recalcitrant of those youth still face incarceration. But for those less violent and less sophisticated, the District funded a series of no-nonsense, rehabilitative programs which work with delinquent youth in their own neighborhoods. By diverting youths from imprisonment into rehabilitation, the District seems to have actually reduced the likelihood that our young people will "graduate" into more violent behavior.

The results have been impressive. In a 1997 analysis of the District's new youth programs by the American Correctional Association (the trade association for prison wardens and correctional administrators) the programs were shown to have better than 80% success rates, a huge improvement over the two-thirds rearrest rates most states are accustomed to from their juvenile justice systems.

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PAGE 04

There is no bromide, no sound-bite, no three-minute evening news segment, that can address the complex factors that contribute to violent crime in America that have made our country, and our nation's capitol, one of the most violent places in the First World. There is also nothing that can be done to undo the damage to the innocent young people who were shot at the National Zoo this week.

In the case of the District of Columbia, sensible gun control, a better economy, and a smarter juvenile justice system have posted some impressive gains in the struggle to reduce violence, a struggle which is clearly far from over. So before the national press corps launches one more diatribe against the youth of America, or one more story lamenting the demise of the District of Columbia, it should take a look at the facts about youth crime in DC. Maybe other cities and states could actually learn something from DC's successful approach that has reduced crime more rapidly and treated young people more decently than just about any other place in the country.

wc 1160

Vincent Schiraldi and Jason Ziedenberg are with the Justice Policy Institute, a research and public policy organization based in Washington, DC.



U.S. Department of Justice
United States Attorney
District of Columbia

Judiciary Center
555 Fourth St. N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001

FAX

To: Deanna Bennis
From: Channing Phillips
Fax: 456-7028
Phone: 514-6933
Date: April 27, 2000
Re: requested information
Page(s): 11 including cover

COMMENTS:

As requested, please see attached.

CONFIDENTIAL U.S. ATTORNEY FACSIMILE COMMUNICATION

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U.S. Department of Justice

United States Attorney

District of Columbia

Judiciary Center
555 Fourth St. N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Monday, November 15, 1999

Contact: Channing D. Phillips
(202) 514-6933

WILMA A. LEWIS
United States Attorney for the District of Columbia

**OPERATION CEASEFIRE PLAN TO REDUCE
GUN VIOLENCE IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

Washington, D.C. - As part of its unique responsibility as both local and federal prosecutor, the United States Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia has long considered the prosecution of firearms cases and the overall reduction of firearms-related violence to be one of its top priorities. In response to President Clinton's March 20, 1999, directive to Attorney General Janet Reno that each U.S. Attorney develop a comprehensive strategy to reduce gun violence in their respective districts, U.S. Attorney Wilma A. Lewis, Mayor Anthony A. Williams, Metropolitan Police Department Executive Assistant Chief Terrance W. Gainer, Under-Secretary of the Treasury James E. Johnson and Special Agent in Charge of the ATF Washington Field Division Patrick D. Hines today announced a comprehensive plan to reduce gun violence in the District of Columbia.

This program, which we will continue to call OPERATION CEASEFIRE – the name given to the firearms reduction program initiated in the District of Columbia in 1995 under the leadership of then-U.S. Attorney Eric H. Holder, Jr. – expands programs that have proven successful, dedicates new resources and launches new initiatives in partnership with the Mayor, federal and local law enforcement, and members of the community. Our ambitious goals are not only to reduce and eliminate the number of guns on our streets and the violence associated therewith, but overall to

improve the quality of life for all citizens who live and work in our great city.

United States Attorney Wilma A. Lewis stated, "together, we believe that the message will be clear – enough is enough. We will not tolerate criminals who continue to carry guns, to sell drugs, and to shoot at each other in the streets of the District of Columbia. We stand united and we will fight to make sure that the children of the District of Columbia live in a safe community."

Although crime is down in our city, even by the most conservative estimates, thousands of illegal firearms continue to be present in the District every day, and firearms-related violence continues to exact a terrible and continuing toll on not only the approximate 520,000 people who live in the city but the millions of individuals who come to work and visit. Clearly, more must be done.

Our goal and objectives are to reverse the disturbing trend of violence and possession and use of firearms through effective coordination and cooperation between law enforcement, the private and public sector and the community. Essentially, the OPERATION CEASEFIRE Action Plan includes the following ten key components, some of which we are already implementing:

- Citywide Expansion of our Community Prosecution initiative which is predicated upon partnerships between law enforcement, prosecutors and the community to attack and prevent crime;
- Creation and staffing of a new Gang Prosecution and Intelligence Section;
- Increased prosecution of firearms violations in the United States District Court;
- Utilization and support of ATF's newly created Regional Gun Crime Center;
- Modification of the existing debriefing program to require certain defendants to submit to mandatory debriefings as a condition to receiving a plea offer;
- Heightened enforcement of probation and parole conditions applicable to violent chronic offenders;
- Implementation of the Conditions of Release Enforcement Program (CORE), a recent

program that is designed to ensure that pretrial defendants adhere to their conditions of release;

- Design and implementation of a comprehensive media campaign to increase public awareness of gun-related crime and violence. One aspect of the campaign will focus on the very real tragedy that occurred here in the District of Columbia in which 7-year-old Dennis Ashton, Jr., was killed by gun-fire. Although the defendants were successfully prosecuted and are now serving lengthy prison terms, the case highlights the irreversible and devastating impact of gun violence upon our community.
- Expansion of school and community-based programs aimed at preventing youth participation in drug trafficking and gun violence;
- Long-term planning with city leaders within the framework of the Department's National Institute of Justice SACSI (Strategic Approaches to Community Safety Initiatives) program.

The plan has a strong law enforcement component to underscore the seriousness of gun violence. It also has an important public awareness campaign to educate and remind the public of the devastating impact of firearm violence.

In response to the problem of firearms-related violence, the U.S. Attorney's Office, the Mayor's Office, MPD, the U.S. Department of Treasury and ATF have joined together to implement a comprehensive strategy to reduce gun violence. As partners in this fight against violent crime, we have joined together to unite the community to make our city streets safer for our residents and visitors.

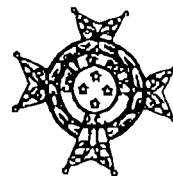
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METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

CHARLES H. RAMSEY

Chief of Police



MPD NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

November 15, 1999

CONTACT: Public Information Office
(202) 727-4383

DISTRICT LEADERS ANNOUNCE EXPANDED OPERATION CEASEFIRE INITIATIVE

Mayor Anthony A. Williams joined leaders of the Metropolitan Police Department, the U. S. Attorney's Office and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, in announcing today the implementation of the Operation Ceasefire Comprehensive Firearms Violence Reduction Strategy for the District of Columbia. Elements of the ten-point strategy include increased federal firearms prosecutions, utilization of ATF's newly created regional gun crime center, and school and community based violence prevention efforts, including a new public awareness campaign.

The announcement was held at the P. R. Harris Educational Center located at 4600 Livingston Road, S.E., in the Seventh Police District. In addition to Mayor Williams, speakers included Terrance W. Gainer, Executive Assistant Chief of the Metropolitan Police Department, U. S. Attorney Wilma Lewis, Special Agent-in-Charge of the ATF Washington Field Division Patrick D. Hynes, and Mrs. LoTonya Smith, mother of Dennis K. Ashton, Jr., a 7 year-old who was fatally shot on June 29, 1997 as he sat in the car with his father in a Popeye's Restaurant parking lot in Southeast D.C. Dennis is featured in some of the anti-violence materials that are part of the public awareness campaign.

Operation Ceasefire is a program that was developed in 1995 for the District of Columbia by then-U.S. Attorney Eric Holder. The comprehensive strategy announced today expands successful programs already in place, dedicates new resources and launches new initiatives in partnership with law enforcement and members of the community. Operation Ceasefire consists of a combination of aggressive law enforcement and prosecution efforts aimed at recovering illegal handguns, prosecuting dangerous felons, increasing public awareness, and promoting public safety and anti-violence campaigns.

In conjunction with the U. S. Attorney's Office and ATF, the Metropolitan Police Department has developed an extensive media outreach and education campaign, modeled after the successful "Project Exile" in Richmond, Virginia.



300 INDIANA AVENUE, N.W.,
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001

-more-

★ ★ ★ GOVERNMENT of the
DISTRICT of Columbia

Mayor Anthony A. Williams commented, "The success of the recent gun buy-back program that started in one police district, and ultimately was expanded to include every police district, gives us every indication that the citizens of the District of Columbia are tired of the violence and want it to stop. Operation Ceasefire is another component in the fight against crime that is going to help make our city one of the safest in the nation."

Chief Charles H. Ramsey stated, "Community policing is about partnerships, such as the one Operation Ceasefire exhibits, among not only law enforcement agencies, but between law enforcement and all segments of our community. Even though we are seeing definite improvements in the crime rate in Washington, D. C. – almost an 11% reduction in gun-related violence this year – the numbers are still totally unacceptable for a city the size of D. C. We hope to change that with the implementation of this coordinated firearms reduction strategy."

Ramsey noted that through the first ten months of this year, 79% of the 200 homicides committed in the District of Columbia were committed with a firearm.

Other components of the ten-point plan include expansion of the Community Prosecution initiative to include all seven police districts and the implementation of the Conditions of Release Enforcement Program (CORE).

For more information contact: Channing D. Phillips, U. S. Attorney's Office
(202) 514-6933

Bradley S. Earman, ATF
(202) 927-8810

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Operation Ceasefire Ten Point Plan

- Expansion of our Community Prosecution initiative to include all police districts within the District of Columbia
- Creation and staffing of a new Gang Prosecution and Intelligence Section
- Increased prosecution of firearms violations in the United States District Court
- Utilization and support of ATF's newly created Regional Gun Crime Center
- Modification of the existing debriefing program to require certain defendants to submit to mandatory debriefings as a condition to receiving a plea offer
- Heightened enforcement of probation and parole conditions applicable to violent chronic offenders
- Implementation of the Conditions of Release Enforcement Program (CORE)
- Design and implementation of a comprehensive media campaign to increase public awareness of gun-related crime and violence
- Expansion of school and community-based programs aimed at preventing youth participation in drug trafficking and gun violence
- Long-term planning with city leaders within the framework of the Department's National Institute of Justice SACSI (Strategic Approaches to Community Safety Initiatives) program



U.S. Department of Justice

United States Attorney

District of Columbia

*Judiciary Center
555 Fourth St. N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Friday, February 12, 1999

Contact: Channing D. Phillips
(202) 514-6933

PRESS RELEASE

**Wilma A. Lewis
United States Attorney
for the District of Columbia**

**District man sentenced to 25 years to life for fatal shooting of 7-year-old
in Popeye's Restaurant Parking Lot**

Washington, D.C. - United States Attorney Wilma A. Lewis announced that **Charles Fantroy, Jr.**, 19, formerly of 926 Hilltop Terrace, Southeast, Washington, D.C., was sentenced today by Superior Court Judge Nan R. Shuker to the maximum total of 25 years to life imprisonment for the June 29, 1997, fatal shooting of 7-year-old Dennis Ashton, Jr., as the 7-year-old sat in the car with his father in a Popeye's Restaurant parking lot. **Fantroy** pled guilty in December 1997 to second-degree murder while armed and possession of a firearm during a crime of violence.

According to the evidence summarized by Assistant U.S. Attorney Teresa Howie at the earlier plea hearing, Dennis Ashton, Jr., his father, and two other individuals were traveling in the area of the 5000 block of Benning Road, Southeast, Washington, D.C., when they were observed by **Fantroy**, who recognized one of the individuals in the car as a friend of an individual with whom he had had a prior altercation. **Fantroy**, along with an accomplice, Bernard Coleman, decided to attempt to shoot the friend in retaliation for the earlier assault. **Fantroy** subsequently found the friend parked at the Popeye's Restaurant in the 4000 block of Benning Road sitting in

the vehicle with the victim and two other people. While Coleman blocked the car occupied by the victim, **Fantroy**, armed with a .44 caliber handgun, shot numerous times into the car, striking and killing **Dennis Ashton, Jr.**

Fantroy's, accomplice, **Bernard Coleman**, 23, formerly of the 1000 block of Ridge Road, S.E., has pled guilty to numerous charges for assisting in the shooting and is scheduled to be sentenced on March 24, 1999, by Judge Shuker.

In announcing today's sentencing, United States Lewis praised the efforts of lead MPD Homicide Detective James King, as well as Detectives Gregory Archer, Sgt. George Kucik, and Mobile Crime Officer Joseph Anderson. She also commended Paralegal Specialist Vada McAfee who assisted in the trial preparation and Assistant United States Attorney Teresa Howie who prosecuted this case at trial.

#

#99-051



DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
BUREAU OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO AND FIREARMS
WASHINGTON, DC 20226

OPERATION CEASEFIRE:
A MESSAGE FROM PATRICK D. HYNES
SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE
ATF WASHINGTON FIELD DIVISION

We live in a society where the criminal misuse of firearms has caused indescribable damage and pain to families throughout this country. As the Nation's leading firearms enforcement agency, partnered with other Federal, State and local agencies, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) is dedicated to the role of reducing violent crime here in Washington, DC, across the country and around the world. Operation Ceasefire is a partnership of which I am particularly proud. Working together with the United States Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia and the Washington Metropolitan Police Department, we will mobilize our resources to increase the public's safety in our Nation's Capital.

Outreach, education and prevention are major factors in protecting the future of our community. ATF and the the Metropolitan Police Department have partnered to provide the Gang Resistance Education And Training (GREAT) program in the D.C. Public Schools. Through, GREAT we are teaching children how to avoid gangs and violence. This is an investment in our children, our future.

At the core of firearms related violence are the illegal transfers of firearms into the hands of criminals and their use of firearms to commit crimes. The task of interdicting the flow of these illegally trafficked firearms is a common bond among all law enforcement agencies. With this in mind, the Washington Field Division of ATF will operate the Regional Crime Gun Center (RCGC).

The RCGC will be multi-tasked to centralize management of new and existing strategies and databases. These include On-Line Lead, the Integrated Ballistic Information System (IBIS), the National Instant Check System (NICS), the Youth Crime Gun Interdiction Initiative (YCGGI), and criminal intelligence information garnered from the restoration of obliterated serial numbers and the Lautenberg and Brady Acts.

On-Line Lead is ATF's firearms trafficking database. A multi-dimensional intelligence approach to identifying the illicit transfer, possession and trafficking of firearms, On-Line Lead is a direct link to ATF's National Tracing Center (NTC). With access to the NTC's more than one hundred million firearms transaction records from out of business dealers and the statutory authority to obtain firearms trace information on crime guns from active dealers, the system is unique to law enforcement. It is the premier tool for law enforcement agencies to identify criminal patterns and to assist in the prosecution of firearm violations.

Patrick D. Hynes
Page 2

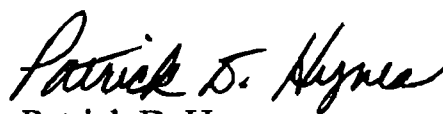
The RCGC will team with other law enforcement agencies to identify the sources of illicit firearms in their areas. That information will be used to provide leads for investigators and to develop strategies to stop the flow of illicit firearms into D.C. and throughout the region.

ATF's IBIS system electronically catalogues thousands of records of projectiles (bullets) and the imprint of the interior of firearms' barrels. These unique records, or images, can be compared in minutes, a task that would have taken a lifetime if performed manually. With IBIS, firearms and projectiles recovered from crime scenes are compared to those recovered from previous crimes to identify links and patterns to other crimes. The system has been used to successfully match firearms to crimes and suspects that would have otherwise gone undetected. The Metropolitan Police Department operates one of the most productive IBIS systems in the nation.

The RCGC places special emphasis on the identification and interdiction of sources of firearms to juveniles and young adults. As part of the center's aggressive tracing program and liaison with state and local agencies, firearms recoveries and traces involving juveniles and young adults are given priority in investigation. The RCGC's Washington Field Division was the first to perfect a firearms trafficking prosecution under the nationwide Youth Crime Gun Interdiction Initiative.

As the Federal steward of the legal firearms sales process, ATF is responsible for enforcing the provisions of the Brady Act. Persons who are prohibited from firearms possession must not be allowed access to firearms. Further, under the provisions of the Lautenberg Amendment to the Gun Control Act, a new category of person who may not possess or purchase firearms, the domestic violence misdemeanor, was created. In achieving one of its core missions - reducing violent crime - ATF and the RCGC are working closely with other law enforcement agencies to inform the public, prosecute violent offenders and reduce violence in our streets.

The greatest tool we have to combat violent crime in your neighborhood, however is YOU! ATF has activated its 1-800-ATF-GUNS, toll free hotline, so YOU can report violent gun crime in your community. To most effectively combat violent crime we need your help. 1-800-ATF-GUNS is staffed 24 hours a day, 7 days a week by ATF agents who, working jointly with the Metropolitan Police Department and the U.S. Attorney's Office will target, arrest and prosecute those who prey on our children, our family and our neighbors.


Patrick D. Hynes

Visit the ATF Website at www.atf.treas.gov



U.S. Department of Justice

Office of the Associate Attorney General

Deputy Associate Attorney General

Washington, D.C. 20530



CHARLES A. SIMON
DEPUTY ASSOCIATE ATTORNEY
GENERAL
OFFICE OF THE ASSOCIATE
ATTORNEY GENERAL
(202) 305-8283 (OFFICE)
(202) 307-3904 (FAX)

TO:

Leanne Shemubukuro
Deanne Benos

DATE:

4-27-00

FAX #:

456-7028

PHONE #:

456-5574

OF PAGES:

9

(INCLUDING COVER)

COMMENTS:

Fiscal Year 1998-2000 Awards to the District of Columbia
April 27, 2000

<u>Program/Program Office</u>	<u>Award Amount</u>
DRUG COURT PROGRAM OFFICE	1,553,800
DRUG PROGRAM - FORMULA	4,312,299
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF WEED AND SEED (EOWS)	7,532,872
LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT BLOCK GRANTS	7,505,259
OJJDP-OFFICE OF JUVENILE JUST & DEL PREV	28,703,969
OVC-OFFICE FOR VICTIMS OF CRIME	5,349,306
Grand Total	54,957,505

State	Jurisdiction Name	Population	LEO's	Submission Date	Total Vests	Average Price of Vests	Application Amount	Funded 50%	Approved Amount	Percent Approved
Delaware	SEAFORD CITY	6,400	24	08-Sep-99	7	\$545.00	\$3,815.00	\$1,907.50	\$1,907.50	50.00
Delaware	DOVER CITY	30,414	81	08-Oct-99	11	\$439.00	\$4,867.50	\$2,433.75	\$2,433.75	50.00
Delaware	WILMINGTON CITY	69,490	309	30-Sep-99	99	\$635.86	\$63,940.00	\$31,970.00	\$31,970.00	50.00
Delaware	SUSSEX COUNTY	131,181	20	30-Sep-99	5	\$449.00	\$2,245.00	\$1,122.50	\$1,122.50	50.00
Delaware	DELAWARE	723,475	3,909	29-Sep-99	1,400	\$350.00	\$490,000.00	\$245,000.00	\$31,000.00	6.33
	Totals		4,347		1,526		\$567,067.50	\$283,533.75	\$69,533.75	
Wash D.C	WASHINGTON D C CITY	523,124	9,198	21-Oct-99	824	\$370.00	\$304,880.00	\$152,440.00	\$31,000.00	10.17
Wash D.C	WASHINGTON METRO AREA TRANSIT AUTHORITY	3,200,000	350	30-Sep-99	20	\$1,389.97	\$27,799.40	\$13,899.70	\$13,899.70	50.00
	Totals		9,548		844		\$332,679.40	\$166,339.70	\$44,899.70	
Florida	INDIAN CREEK VILLAGE	50	22	11-Aug-99	19	\$488.99	\$9,290.81	\$4,645.41	\$3,000.00	32.29
Florida	OAKLAND TOWN	752	15	24-Aug-99	15	\$473.50	\$8,049.50	\$4,024.75	\$3,000.00	37.27
Florida	MEXICO BEACH CITY	1,033	6	02-Aug-99	6	\$627.69	\$3,766.14	\$1,883.07	\$1,883.07	50.00
Florida	HAVANA TOWN	1,800	10	29-Sep-99	2	\$359.00	\$726.00	\$363.00	\$363.00	50.00
Florida	EAGLE LAKE CITY	1,947	6	20-Aug-99	6	\$585.99	\$3,731.93	\$1,865.97	\$1,865.97	50.00
Florida	TOWN OF JUNO BEACH	2,200	14	11-Oct-99	8	\$473.50	\$3,788.00	\$1,894.00	\$1,894.00	50.00
Florida	PONCE INLET TOWN	2,200	11	14-May-99	11	\$376.80	\$4,144.80	\$2,072.40	\$2,072.40	50.00
Florida	DAVENPORT CITY	2,238	10	14-Jul-99	9	\$372.84	\$3,355.60	\$1,677.80	\$1,677.80	50.00
Florida	CITY OF PORT RICHEY	2,634	14	20-May-99	13	\$390.00	\$5,148.00	\$2,574.00	\$2,574.00	50.00
Florida	DAYTONA BEACH SHORES CITY	3,046	35	01-Sep-99	35	\$395.00	\$13,825.00	\$6,912.50	\$3,000.00	21.70

OFFICE OF JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION
Juvenile Mentoring Program (JUMP)

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

AWARDED TO: District of Columbia Courts
Washington, D.C.

AMOUNT: \$189,938*

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The District of Columbia Courts, in conjunction with Kappa Alpha Psi Alumni and the Anthony Bowen YMCA, have formed a partnership to provide support for abused and neglected boys through the WKAY-100 program, a one-to-one mentoring and guidance service for boys ages 8 to 14 referred by court social workers under the jurisdiction of the D.C. Superior Court. These children participate in educational, cultural, and recreational events and life-skills workshops to improve academic performance and promote positive social relationships.

In 1997 the program will begin an academic tutoring program at the Anthony Bowen YMCA to strengthen the WKAY-100 Program's ability to improve students' school performance. The YMCA will provide the use of its learning lab and learning lab coordinator for two hours a day from Monday through Friday and for four hours on Saturdays. WKAY-100 youth will have access to computers and educational software that will assist them in meeting their academic goals. The learning lab coordinator will ensure that students follow an individualized workplan developed in consultation with representatives of the D.C. Public Schools.

To address the needs of secondary school WKAY-100 youth (ages 12-14) for job skill development, the WKAY-100 Program plans to develop and implement a vocational preparation/apprenticeship program next year. The first phase of this program will involve an assessment of the mentee's skills and interests and "shadowing" experiences with program mentors, court and school employees, and other representatives from agencies. A mentor will sponsor a youth for two months during the summer, when the youth will be placed in a work environment to learn a particular skill.

LOCAL CONTACT: Mr. Ulysses B. Hammond
500 Indiana Avenue, Room 1500
Washington, D.C. 20001
Phone: 202/879-1700

OJP CONTACT: Adam Spector or Linda Mansour
Phone: 202/307-0703

*This award amount may change slightly after final financial review.

April 11, 1997

**OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS
OFFICE OF JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION
Juvenile Mentoring Program (JUMP)**

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

AWARDED TO: Center for Child Protection & Family Support
Washington, DC

AMOUNT: \$200,000*

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The Center for Child Protection & Family Support will expand its SPIRITS (School-based Prevention Including Resources, Identification Treatment Services) program to include a mentoring component. The target youth are African-American males between the ages of 10-15, who are enrolled in the SPIRITS program from three area schools, Turner Elementary, Lackie Elementary and Hart Middle School.

The mentoring program will match 135 at-risk students with screened mentors from the community. Mentors will be recruited from area religious organizations, hospitals, private foundations, and the military.

LOCAL CONTACT:
Joyce N. Thomas
714 G Street, SE
Washington, DC 20003

202/544-3144

OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS CONTACT:

Adam Spector
202/307-0703

*This award amount may change slightly after final financial review.

February 3, 1999

Profile No. 50

Hands Without Guns—Washington, DC

Program Type or Federal Program Source:
Program to change attitudes about guns and violence.

Program Goal:

To promote a public health and education campaign to change attitudes about gun violence and gun possession by highlighting positive youth programs.

Specific Groups Targeted by the Strategy:
12- to 18-year-old youth.

Geographical Area Targeted by the Strategy:
Nationwide.

Evaluated by:
Internal data collection.

Contact Information:

Josh Horwitz
Educational Fund to End Handgun
Violence
1000 16th Street NW., Suite 603
Washington, DC 20036
Phone: 202-530-5888, ext. 28

Years of Operation:
1995-present.

Over the past three decades, gun-related injuries and deaths have risen among youth. Hands Without Guns, a public health and education campaign, was developed by the Educational Fund to End Handgun Violence, in partnership with a creative communications firm, to address this growing problem. The goal of the initiative is to change the attitudes of 12- to 18-year-old youth about gun possession. To accomplish this, the initiative seeks to reduce the public acceptability of firearms by promoting and stimulating positive grassroots initiatives and by encouraging youth activism in the fight against gun violence. These activities include youth antiviolence programs and a variety of afterschool projects not typically associated with violence prevention, such as theater groups, arts centers, and video clubs.

Hands Without Guns has three components. One is an extensive media campaign using television, radio, transportation advertisements, and music. Through this effort, youth

see that other youth are involved in positive activities and that their efforts are supported and praised by adults. A second component is youth outreach through a series of workshops and activities. In the workshops, youth are encouraged to develop their own responses to gun violence. For example, in the Boston program, the youth developed a buyback program for toy guns. The third component is an evaluation of program outcomes. A youth survey available in long or short forms, developed by the Harvard University School of Public Health, is administered before the campaign starts and at various times throughout the campaign to determine its impact on youth. Specifically, one of the questions asks youth whether they have ever carried a handgun for protection. The results of the survey appear to demonstrate a beneficial effect of the program. Youth who had never carried a gun before were more likely to know about the program (40 percent) than those who had carried a gun before (10 percent).

Profile No. 50 (continued)

Over the past 3 years, the Hands Without Guns program has been implemented in four cities: Boston, MA; Chicago, IL; Holland, MI; and Washington, DC. In 1999,

the campaign will be implemented in Milwaukee, WI; Norfolk/Virginia Beach, VA; Pittsburgh, PA; and Richmond, VA.

Profile No. 54

Straight Talk About Risks (STAR), Center to Prevent Handgun Violence—Washington, DC

Program Type or Federal Program Source:
Program to teach gun safety.

Program Goal:
To reduce unintentional childhood gun traumas, injuries, and deaths.

Specific Groups Targeted by the Strategy:
Children and youth in prekindergarten through grade 12.

Geographical Area Targeted by the Strategy:
Nationwide.

Evaluated by:
Education Development Center, Inc.,
Newton, MA.

Contact Information:
Alicia Horton
Center to Prevent Handgun Violence
Education Division
1225 Eye Street NW
Washington, DC 20005
Phone: 202-289-7319

Years of Operation:
1992–present.

The Center to Prevent Handgun Violence developed the STAR curriculum in response to the escalating number of gun-related deaths of children and teens. STAR is a prekindergarten through grade 12 curriculum that educates students about the risks of handling guns and enables them to recognize situations that may lead to gun-related injuries, identify trusted adults, make safe choices, combat negative peer pressure, and resolve conflicts nonviolently. The goal of the program is to reduce childhood gun trauma and fatalities by providing the curriculum to schools, youth agencies, and community-based organizations. The curriculum is based on focus group research conducted by the Center to Prevent Handgun Violence, and on a joint pilot program with the Dade County, FL, public schools. The Center worked closely with teachers, guidance counselors, students, and parents to develop the curriculum. A team of national experts in child development, injury prevention, curriculum design, crime prevention, and law enforce-

ment provided a critical review prior to STAR's publication in 1992.

The activities presented in the curriculum include: (1) learning and practicing gun safety skills that can be used outside the classroom; (2) self-reflection and role-playing using typical coping mechanisms for anger and fear; (3) setting personal and societal goals for change; and (4) developing competency and leadership skills to address gun safety issues with peers and the community. The STAR program teaches younger children how to behave safely when a gun is encountered, how to resist peer pressure to play with or carry guns, and how to distinguish real-life violence from television violence. For older children, the program offers activities that teach coping skills, decisionmaking skills, refusal skills for resisting peer pressure, and conflict management skills. In addition, STAR provides information to parents to ensure that guns and other weapons are not accessible to their children. Parents are encouraged to talk to their

Profile No. 54 (continued)

children about the dangers of guns and consequences of gun violence. Currently, STAR is being used in more than 90 school districts nationwide as part of police-led crime prevention efforts and in conjunction with recreation and health education programs.

An independent research firm, Education Development Center, Inc., conducted a formative and preliminary impact evaluation of STAR. The evaluation was designed to examine STAR implementation and student outcomes and included participant self-reports, direct observation, teacher interviews, and student group interviews. Educators found STAR to be developmentally and culturally sensitive, and the program has been well

received and generally rated positively by younger students. However, student enthusiasm for the program declined with grade level. The evaluators believe that this is not unique to STAR and indicates only that innovative methods for engaging older students need to be incorporated. Additionally, educators indicated a need to enhance the program through practice and reinforcement throughout the school day and for all subject areas. Student impacts were assessed using an evaluation design involving pretesting and posttesting of treatment and comparison groups. STAR was found to be most effective for increasing gun safety knowledge, attitudes, and behavior of students in grades 3 to 5.

1:00 PM (AD)

Council of the District of Columbia Report

One Judiciary Square 441 Fourth Street, N.W. Washington, DC 20001

To: Members of the Council of the District of Columbia

From: Harold Brazil, Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary

Date: April 19, 2000 *Harold Brazil*

Subject: Report on the Fiscal Year 2001 (FY2001) Budget Request for the
 Agencies under the Purview of the Committee on the Judiciary

This Report reflects the recommendations of the Committee on the Judiciary regarding the FY2001 Budget Request for the agencies under the purview of the Committee on the Judiciary.

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Part I: Introduction.

The Judiciary Committee ("the Committee") has oversight over several important public safety agencies, including the Metropolitan Police Department, the Department of Corrections, and the Department and Fire and Emergency Medical Services. As part of the FY2001 budget approval process, the Committee notes that agencies under its

purview have made operational improvements during FY2000, some of which will be outlined below.

The Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) has made great strides in fighting crime. In 1998, there were 48,022 reported crimes in the District of Columbia; in 1999 reported crimes were down to 41,103, a 14% reduction. Homicides have dropped.¹ Additionally, during FY2000 MPD established a 3-1-1 system providing residents and visitors with an easy to remember phone number for police non-emergency assistance. The 311 system is expected to reduce the number of non-emergency calls that have historically overloaded the 911 system.

The Emergency Management Agency (EMA) worked to prepare for Y2K problems. Fortunately, while the much-feared Y2K computer crash did not materialize, it did not in large measure because of the outstanding work of EMA and other District and federal agencies. In addition, EMA, working with MPD and other agencies, successfully managed the city's response to major protests held in Washington from April 16 to April 18, 2000.

The Department of Corrections has made several important operational improvements since 1999. The Department of Corrections significantly improved the operation of the government run halfway house, Community Corrections Center #4. Abscondances and escapes were reduced. The Committee, however, believes that the proposed budget under-funds the Department of Corrections by approximately \$22 million. The Committee warns that such under-funding will jeopardize safety and is unwise. The Committee will work with the Mayor and with the full Council to identify additional funding for Corrections.

The Office of Corporation Counsel, which also falls under the Committee's purview, has made several operational improvements. Under Judge John Ferren, the former Corporation Counsel, the Office increased the salaries of its lawyers thereby improving retention rates for experienced attorneys at the Office. The Committee commends the Mayor for appointing Robert Rigsby as the new Corporation Counsel. Under their leadership, the tobacco settlement was reached whereby the District will receive approximately \$1.2 billion over 25 years.

¹ In 1996, there were approximately 400 homicides in the District of Columbia. In 1999, there were 253 homicides.

Overall, the Committee is pleased with the work of District's public safety agencies and their employees and the Committee looks forward to continued operational improvements.

Part II: Discussion of Specific FY2001 Committee Recommendations.

Board of Appeals and Review.

The Board adjudicates appeals by citizens against decisions rendered by District agencies. The FY 2000 local approved budget was \$240,000, and the Mayor's local proposed FY2001 budget is \$244,000, representing a net increase of \$4,000. The Committee recommends an FY2001 budget of \$244,000, representing no change from the Mayor's proposed budget. Funding for the Board is completely from local funds.

Metropolitan Police Department.

The FY2000 approved operating budget for MPD was \$305,028,000 and the Mayor's proposed FY2001 budget is \$301,837,000, representing a net decrease of \$3,191,000. The FY2000 local approved operating budget for MPD was \$282,792,000, and the Mayor's proposed FY2001 local budget is \$283,575,000. The Committee recommends a FY2001 local budget of \$283,575,000.

The Committee supports the Department's capital budget. District headquarters renovations are long over-due.

The Committee also supports the establishment of a police cadet program as a means to assist MPD in identifying recruits and in training qualified D.C. residents as officers. The Chief supports a cadet program, but the Mayor's budget did not include specified funds for it.

Measuring the Cost of Federal Presence in the District.

Finally, the Committee directs the Department to continue to track the cost of the federal presence in the District as it pertains to the Department.

Fire & Emergency Medical Services Department.

The FY2000 local approved budget for Fire /EMS was \$111,942,000, and the Mayor's FY2001 local proposed budget is \$117,895,000, representing a net increase of \$5,954,000. There is no federal funding for the Department. The Committee recommends an FY2001 budget of \$117,895,000.

Proposed Dual-Role Cross-Training System.

The Interim Chief has under-taken a re-structuring of the Department with a Dual Role Cross Training system. While the Committee is not opposed to dual role cross-training, the Committee is without sufficient information upon which to approve a complete re-organization as proposed by the Interim Chief. The Committee has requested a fully developed plan for a Dual Role Cross Training model with cost estimates and time schedules for implementation.

When an agency proposes major program enhancements, taxpayers have a right to know what they would cost. The Council has a duty to examine them, and the Department has a duty to present a detailed plan for the proposed programmatic changes. The Committee emphasizes that it is not opposed to the proposed Dual Role Cross Training system. The Committee directs the Department to submit a detailed plan for implementation of the proposed Dual Role Cross Training system. The Committee authorizes the Department to require newly hired firefighters to be trained to the level of paramedic provided that the Department can do so within its operating budget.

Compensation for Communications Division Employees.

The Committee supports an increase in compensation for the Communications Division employees.² The Communications Division receives and manages 911 calls. Communications workers are first responders who serve a critical role in emergency responsiveness. The Department has had difficulty hiring employees in the Communications Division. Vacancies have had to be back-filled with employees on over-time, which drives up agency expenses. With a more competitive compensation

² Fire Communication Division Operators receive starting salaries of between \$23,713 and \$30,427.

package, the Department will have a greater likelihood of hiring the necessary complement of qualified employees.

The Committee directs the Department to develop a plan to increase the compensation of communications workers beginning in FY2001. The Committee would grant flexibility to management to make such salary increases payable as bonus pay provided that every deserving employee in the Communications Division receives a bonus and provided that at least 50% of such bonuses are payable within the first 180 days of FY2001. Ultimately, the Committee supports a pay increase for Communications Division employees, but a bonus payment could assist the employees while a more permanent salary increase is obtained through the collective bargaining process. The Committee would support using funds from the reserve to pay this bonus; a bonus is a non-recurring expense.

Capital Projects.

The Committee notes that the Department is proceeding with several important improvements, including capital improvement projects, such as the purchase of additional equipment and the renovation of firehouses. The Committee supports these important projects and commends the Department and the Chief for developing plans to improve the Department's facilities.

However, at the urging of community leaders in the Tenleytown community, the Committee calls for a delay in one of the capital improvement projects. The Department plans to construct a replacement facility for Engine Company 20.³ Doors at that firehouse are not large enough to accommodate newer fire fighting apparatus and the building is in need of renovation. The Department plans to demolish the existing structure and to construct a new facility. Community leaders in the Tenleytown area have informed the Committee that they are opposed to the proposed demolition of the existing structure. The Committee urges a delay in completion of this project until the community has been heard and the concerns have been addressed.⁴

³ Capital Project Code: E20. See FY2001 - FY2001 Capital Budget, at page 169.

⁴ Mr. Marvin Tievski, of the Tenleytown/Friendship Heights Civic Association, and Ms. Jean Pablo, President of the Tenleytown Historical Society, have urged the Committee to delay funding of a demolition of the firehouse located on Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. at Warren Street.

Cadet Program.

The Committee supports establishment of a cadet program. The Committee directs the Chief to plan for the establishment of a cadet program. Members, however, believe that a cadet program should include a requirement that persons benefitting from the cadet program should be D.C. residents. The terms of the program must require persons who have completed the program to either serve the Department for a set period of years or to reimburse the District for costs incurred.

Estimating the Cost of Federal Presence in the District.

Finally, the Committee directs the Department to maintain a record of the cost of the federal presence in the District as it pertains to the Department. For example, the Committee directs the Department to track the cost and number of manhours incurred as a result of the Department's mission of making personnel and equipment available for the landings and take-offs of Marine One.

Police and Fire Retirement System.

PFRS provides annuity payments and other retirement benefits for former employees. The FY2000 local approved budget for PFRS was \$39,900,000, and the Mayor's FY2001 local proposed budget is \$49,500,000. No FTEs are supported by the budget. The Committee supports an FY2001 local budget of \$49,500,000.

Office of the Corporation Counsel.

The FY2000 local approved budget for the OCC was \$28,801,000, and the Mayor's FY2001 local proposed budget is \$28,076,000. In the Mayor's FY2001 proposed budget, federal funds are expected to be \$13,760,000. Intra-district revenue in FY2001 is expected to be \$1,857,000.

The Committee recommends an FY2001 budget of \$28,801,000, representing an increase over the Mayor's proposed FY2001 budget of \$1,990,000. The Office of Corporation Counsel (OCC) has informed the Committee that the District is legally mandated to comply with the Adoption and Safe Families Act (D.C. Law 13-56), which was passed in order to bring the District into compliance with the federal Adoption and

Safe Families Act (P.L. 105-89). The Adoption and Safe Families Act (ASFA) will require OCC to meet accelerated deadlines for approximately 1,500 to 1,750 child abuse and neglect cases as well as an estimated 2,500 to 3,500 child protection and foster cases in FY2001. OCC has informed the Committee that OCC will need to dedicate approximately 33 FTEs in order to assure that the District is in compliance with both the federal and the local acts. Failure to fully comply with the acts would jeopardize federal funding. Under the federal Adoption and Safe Families Act, in order for a state to receive federal funds under Titles IV-B and IV-E of the Social Security Act the state must comply with standards set out in federal law.⁵ Such funds amount to \$40 million per annum.⁶

OCC has informed the Committee that the estimated cost of providing staff necessary to implement this act is approximately \$1,960,000. The Mayor's proposed budget did not include funding for the Adoption and Safe Families Act. Accordingly, the Committee is adding \$1,960,000 above the Mayor's proposed budget so that OCC will have adequate staff to fulfill its core missions, including compliance with ASFA.

Additionally, the Committee is adding \$30,000 above the Mayor's proposed budget for the purpose of increasing the level of training for OCC staff. The current training budget for OCC is \$26,000, an amount that has not increased in 5 years. The Committee believes that it is critical that OCC staff be trained to represent the District in a professional and competent manner. Each settlement and judgment paid by the District ultimately affects the District's bottom-line. The Committee expects OCC to properly train its lawyers, investigators, paralegals, and other OCC staff. Accordingly, the Committee directs OCC to at least double its training budget; the Committee is adding \$30,000 to OCC's proposed budget so that the funding will be available for OCC to comply with this directive.

Settlements & Judgments.

The Settlements and Judgments Fund was established to settle claims and lawsuits and to pay judgments in legal actions filed against the District. The FY2000

⁵ Charles A. Miller, for the Council for Court Excellence, testimony before the Committee on the Judiciary, April 4, 2000.

⁶ Id.

local approved budget for Settlements and Judgments Fund was \$26,900,000, and the Mayor's FY2001 proposed budget is \$26,900,000, no change from the prior fiscal year. 100% of funding for the Fund is local. The fund does not support FTEs.

The Committee recommends an FY2001 budget of \$24,910,000, \$1,990,000 less than the proposed FY2001 fund contribution. While the Committee understands that this amount is less than the FY2000 fund contribution, the Committee also notes that the FY1999 fund contribution was \$19,658,000.

The Committee is using the \$1,990,000 to fund additional FTEs at the Office of Corporation Counsel and to increase the training of OCC staff. The Committee regrets being forced to reduce the proposed Settlement and Judgement Fund from the Mayor's proposed level, but the Committee was obligated to find resources to fund OCC's need to hire additional staff - a need created by the legal mandate imposed by the Adoption and Safe Families Act. Thus, the Committee was forced to find \$1.9 million in order to provide resources for OCC to hire the staff necessary to comply with the law, and the Committee was forced to find resources in the budgets of the agencies under its purview. The Settlement and Judgment Fund was the best option available to the Committee. The Committee believes that OCC will protect the Settlement and Judgment Fund and that government employees, by properly and effectively performing their duties, will protect the District fisc from judgements.

Department of Corrections.

In FY2000, the Mayor's local proposed budget was \$69,696,000. The Mayor's local proposed budget for FY2001 is \$67,597,000, representing a net decrease of \$2,099,000 in local funding. The Committee notes that federal funds are expected to account for \$131,000,000 in FY2001. The total FY2001 budget is \$200,698,000.

The Corrections Trustee has informed the Committee that DOC's local budget should be between \$85 million and \$89 million during FY2001. Additionally, the Chief Financial Officer advised that DOC's local FY2001 budget should be \$85 million. At \$67 million, the Mayor's proposed FY2001 local budget is significantly lower than these recommendations. The Committee is very concerned that under-funding the Department's base budget could significantly impair the functioning of the Department and could adversely impact public safety. DOC must be able to provide for the effective and safe functioning of the corrections system. The Committee is not able

to identify \$22 million in cuts in other agencies under the purview of the Committee. The Committee urges the Mayor to add \$22 million to the agency's budget, thus bringing the agency to a local operating budget of \$89 million. Thus, the Committee believes that the Department's FY2001 local operating budget should be at least \$67,597,000, unless major changes are made to the operation of the corrections system.

Advisory Commission on Sentencing.

The DC Advisory Commission on Sentencing was created by the Council to provide recommendations on sentencing policy to the Council.⁷ The FY1999 budget contained no funding for the Commission. The FY2000 budget for the Commission was \$707,000, and the Mayor's proposed FY2001 budget for the Commission is \$747,000. The Committee recommends a budget of \$733,000.

D.C. National Guard.

The mission of the National Guard is to protect life and property and to respond to emergencies. The Guard is also available to serve as a component of the military forces of the United States when activated. The Guard serves several disparate functions in support of other District government agencies. For example, the Guard assists in boarding up nuisance properties and assists MPD in narcotics enforcement.

The FY2000 local approved budget for the National Guard was \$1,748,000, and the Mayor's FY2001 local proposed budget is \$2,574,000. The Committee supports a funding level of \$2,574,000, no change from the Mayor's proposed FY2001 budget.

Emergency Management Agency.

The Committee notes that the Emergency Management Agency (EMA) was previously known called the Office of Emergency Preparedness; in FY1998 the Mayor

⁷ See D.C. Law 12-127, to be codified at D.C. Code 2-4201 et seq (establishing the Advisory Sentencing Commission); see also District of Columbia Revitalization Act Section 11212 (establishing Truth in Sentencing Commission).

changed the name by executive order to the Emergency Management Agency. The FY2000 local approved budget for EMA was \$1,678,000, and the Mayor's FY2001 local proposed budget is \$2,017,000, representing a net increase of \$339,000. The Committee recommends an FY2001 local budget of \$2,017,000, no change from the Mayor's proposed budget.

In the FY2000 budget federal funds accounted for \$963,000. Federal funds are also expected to account for \$963,000 in FY2001. EMA employs 39 FTEs. EMA has informed the Committee that it does not intend to hire additional staff or to reduce staff levels during FY2001.

In testimony before the Committee, the Director of the Emergency Management Agency, Mr. Peter LaPorte, stated that EMA should have a "hardened facility" that can function as an emergency center if a major disaster were to strike Washington, D.C. The Committee calls for the creation of a capital budget project for such a facility. The capital project should be in the amount of \$6.09 million. Funding for the first year should be in the amount of \$90,000 and should be used for the purpose of producing a report on the feasibility and design of such a facility. The study should also lay out possible locations for the construction of such a facility.

Commission on Judicial Disabilities and Tenure.

The mission of the Commission is to provide an independent and fair judiciary by making determinations regarding discipline, involuntary retirement, and reappointment of judges of the District of Columbia courts. There are two FTEs.⁸ The FY2000 local approved budget for the Commission on Judicial Disabilities and Tenure was \$143,000, and the Mayor's FY2001 local proposed budget was \$155,000, representing a net increase of \$12,000 over the prior fiscal year. All funding is local.

The Committee recommends an FY2001 budget of \$169,000, an increase of \$14,000 above the Mayor's proposed budget. \$4,000 of the increase is to be dedicated to contractual services. The Committee directs the Commission to retain a contractor to install a security system in the office of the Commission. Because the Commission's staff occasionally faces members of the public who are angry about decisions of local

⁸ The two FTEs are Ms. Cathae Hudgins, Executive Director, and Ms. Gloria Andrews.

judges, the Commission's two employees face potential security risks. Accordingly, the Committee directs the Commission to hire a contracting firm to install a security system for the protection of the employees and to safeguard sensitive documents in the Commission's possession. The remaining \$10,000 of the increase is to be used to increase the compensation of the Commission's two employees.

Judicial Nomination Commission.

The Commission is charged with selecting and recommending nominees to fill judicial vacancies in the District of Columbia courts, which are reviewed by the President of the United States. The FY2000 local approved budget for the Commission was \$85,000, and the Mayor's FY2001 local proposed budget is \$90,000, representing a net increase of \$5,000. The Commission has only 1 FTE. A 6% non-union pay increase accounts for the entire \$5,000 increase. Local funding is 100% of total funding. The Committee recommends an FY2001 budget of \$90,000.

Citizen Complaint Review Board.

The law establishing the Citizen Complaint Review Board (D.C. Law 12-208) was passed by the Council in September of 1998 and signed by the Mayor in October of 1998.⁹ After a lengthy selection process, the Mayor's Office of Boards and Commissions announced the selection of the original 5 CCRB members in late September of 1999. The Judiciary Committee held a hearing on the proposed confirmations in November of 1999 and marked-up the confirmations the same month. In January of 2000 the members of the CCRB were sworn in. The CCRB will oversee the Office of Citizen Complaint Review (OCCR). The CCRB is in the process of selecting an executive Director who will manage the OCCR. The proposed operating budget is \$1,357,422. The Committee supports the Mayor's proposed FY2001 budget.

CCRB has requested additional funds above the Mayor's proposed budget. The Committee accepted the Mayor's full budget for the CCRB for FY2001. The CCRB is beginning operations. After it has begun operations, the CCRB may seek to revise its baseline budget if appropriate.

⁹ D.C. Law 12-208 became effective in March of 1999.

TABLE
(in thousands of dollars)

Agency	FY2000, Local Budget	Proposed FY2001 Local Budget	Committee Mark-up	Unfunded Committee Priorities
BAR	\$240	\$244	\$244	0
MPD	282,792	283,576	283,576	1,830
Fire/EMS	111,861	117,886	117,886	500
PF Retire.	39,900	49,500	49,500	0
OCC	28,801	28,076	30,066	90
Settlements	26,900	26,900	24,910	0
Corrections	69,696	67,597	67,597	22,100
Sent Comm	707	747	733	0
Nat'l Guard	1,748	2,574	2,574	0
EMA	1,678	2,017	2,017	0
Judicial Disability	143	155	169	0
Judicial Nom	85	90	90	0
CCRB	0	1,357	1,357	0
Total- Operating	564,551	580,719	580,719	24,610
EMA (capital)	0	0	6,090	0

Part III: Judiciary Committee's Unfunded Priorities.

Diversity Training.

The Committee recommends that \$380,000 be added to MPD's budget in order to retain a firm to provide diversity training to MPD officers. The Committee notes that the cost of hiring a training firm could be far less than the cost associated with defending the District from claims and lawsuits related to insensitive conduct by government employees.

Department of Corrections.

The Chief Financial Officer advised that the FY2001 operating budget of the Department of Corrections should be \$85 million. The Corrections Trustee stated to the Committee that the Department of Corrections needed \$85 to \$89 million in local funding in its operating budget in order to properly continue operations during FY2001. Yet, the Mayor's proposed FY2001 operating budget for the Department of Corrections is only \$67 million in local funds, approximately \$22 million short of what the Trustee recommended.

The Committee recommends that approximately \$22 million be added to the FY2001 operating account of the Department of Corrections. The Committee notes that there is currently a contract with Corrections Corporation of America (CCA) for the CTF - \$24 million for 800 beds. FY2001 proposed operating budget only has \$13 million for this contract. Therefore, \$11 million may be needed just to fully pay for the CCA contract.

Department of Corrections.

The Committee supports a transfer of \$5 million to the budget of the Department of Corrections for the purpose of providing DOC staff with a one-time retention incentive. Pursuant to the Revitalization Act of 1997, Lorton Correctional Facility must close no later than December 31, 2001. The closure of Lorton will result in

Reductions In Force (RIFs) for the Department. As Lorton closes, there is a possibility that Department staff will seek employment elsewhere unless they are given adequate incentives to continue working for the Department. Thus, there is a potential danger that as the closure date approaches, The Department could lose critical staff as Correctional Officers find employment elsewhere, and that the Department could be critically under-staffed at the end of the year 2001.

In order to prevent such a shortage, the Committee urges the District government to offer a bonus package designed to encourage Corrections Officers and other Corrections staff to work for the Department until the date of their respective RIFs. The Committee favors creation of a fund consisting of \$5 million to meet this public safety need. The Committee notes that the closing of Lorton will be a one-time event and that the bonus payment would be a non-recurring expense.

Expert Study of the Long-Term Capacity Need of the D.C. Detention Center.

The Committee's Chairman is very concerned about the long-term capacity needs of the D.C. Detention Center. The Committee believes that the Council and the Mayor should have an accurate assessment of what the capacity needs of the jail will be in the years 2002, 2005, 2010 and 2015. The Committee urges that \$100,000 be added to DOC's budget for the purpose of hiring an outside expert to report on the long-term capacity needs of the jail. With an accurate assessment of the capacity needs of DOC facilities in the out-years, the District government can engage in a long-term planning process necessary to ensure the District has enough bedspace to meet future public safety needs.

Metropolitan Police Department: Gun Purchase Program

Last year, MPD ran a successful program whereby MPD purchased firearms from individuals. Anyone turning in a gun was given cash. This program took illegal weapons out circulation and probably saved lives. Funds for this program came from seized narcotics trafficking assets. The Committee calls for \$1 million to MPD's budget in order to remove firearms from District neighborhoods.

Metropolitan Police Department: AED Equipment Purchase Pilot Program

The Committee requests that funds be drawn down from the FY2001 reserve in order to establish and fund a pilot program whereby certain MPD patrol cars would carry Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs). AEDs are devices that deliver an electric shock directly to the heart of a person in ventricular fibrillation. AEDs can save the lives of heart attack victims.

Every year in the United States, approximately 350,000 people die of attack. An estimated 65% of fatal heart attacks are caused by ventricular fibrillation.¹⁰ AEDs can stop fibrillation and save lives. In order to be effective, AEDs must be used within minutes of a cardiac arrest. Because police cars are often the first responders at the scene of a heart attack, there is a sound policy basis to equip police cars with AEDs.

Police departments in other jurisdictions are beginning to equip patrol cars with AEDs.¹¹ For example, Leesburg, Virginia, equips police patrol cars with AEDs.¹² Recent technological changes have made AEDs fairly simple to use. With only several hours of training, laypeople can be trained to operate AEDs.

The Committee proposes a pilot program whereby approximately 100 MPD patrol vehicles would be equipped with AEDs. Because AEDs cost approximately \$3,000 to \$3,500 each, the Committee recommends that \$350,000 be withdrawn from the reserve for the purpose of purchasing AEDs. The Committee further recommends that \$100,000 be withdrawn from the reserve for the purpose of training MPD personnel in the use of AEDs. Thus, the Committee calls for \$450,000 for the purpose of establishing the pilot program.

¹⁰ Mickey S. Eisenberg, M.D., "Defibrillation: The Spark of Life," Scientific American, June 1998, at page 86.

¹¹ See Maria Glod, "Officers Armed With Lifesaving Machines," The Washington Post, October 29, 1998, at page B1.

¹² Id.

Fire/EMS Department.

The Communications Division of the Fire/EMS Department receives and manages 911 calls. The Department has had difficulty recruiting employees to work in the Division. To back-fill vacant positions, the Department has placed firefighters in the Division on over-time. Back-filling positions with over-time drives costs upward. In order to retain employees in the Division, the Committee supports a one-time bonus Communications Division employees while a more permanent pay increase is negotiated in the collective bargaining process. The Committee supports funding of up to \$500,000 for this purpose. The Committee expects that a bonus would be a non-recurring expense.

Taxi Cab Security System Loan Program

The Committee on the Judiciary recommends establishment of a loan program which would enable taxi cab drivers could receive low-interest loans for the purchase security devices for their taxi cabs. The Committee understands that the Committee on Public Works and Environment, under the leadership of Councilmember Carol Schwartz, may have identified funding for such a fund. If such funds have been identified then the Judiciary Committee would support the expenditure of local funds to augment resources already identified. The Committee would support obligation of up to \$200,000 in local funds for this purpose.

Housing Code Violation Abatement.

Recently, several apartment buildings in the Columbia Heights area have been managed and owned by negligent landlords. The Committee favors a transfer from the reserve of \$5 million to the Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs so that DCRA may have funds available to renovate rental housing units that have serious housing code violations. Pursuant to D.C. Code §5-513, when a landlord refuses to repair serious and long-standing housing code violations, the Mayor is authorized to abate the violations and to assess the landlord for the cost of the repairs. According to the Chair of the Committee on Consumer and Regulatory Affairs, only \$30,000 is available in the fund established to make such repairs. The members of the Committee on the Judiciary support a transfer of \$5 million from the reserve to the renovation fund. It is expected that DCRA will replenish the fund by assessing landlords for the

costs of repairs and, if necessary, by aggressively collecting assets of delinquent landlords.

Expert Study: Cost of the Federal Presence in the District of Columbia.

The Committee recommends the expenditure of up to \$90,000 for the purpose of funding a study of the cost of the federal presence in the District of Columbia. The Office of Corporation Counsel would be an appropriate agency to oversee this project.

Part IV: Committee Action

The Committee on the Judiciary met on April 19, 2000, to consider and mark-up the FY2001 budget for the agencies under the Committee's purview. Chairman Brazil presided.

Chairman Brazil moved the Table contained in the Committee Report, and opened the floor for discussion. The Committee members voted as follows:

Chairman Brazil	Aye
Councilmember Ambrose	Aye
Councilmember Chavous	Absent
Councilmember Evans	Aye
Councilmember Orange	Absent

BUREAU OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO AND FIREARMS

WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN REGIONAL CRIME GUN CENTER



**Washington Metropolitan Police
Department's**

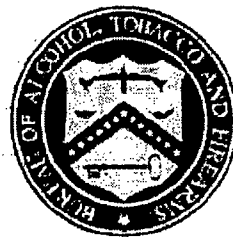
GUN BUY-BACK PROGRAM

**Summary Report
November 1999**



**Chief of Police
Charles H. Ramsey**

*"achieving excellence through
partnerships"*



**Special Agent in Charge
Patrick D. Hynes**

WASHINGTON FIELD DIVISION

WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT



GUN BUY-BACK/AMNESTY PROGRAM

Comprehensive Report

August 9 - 13, 1999
August 23 and 24, 1999

BUREAU OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO AND FIREARMS

AMNESTY REPORT
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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This report is an analysis of the firearms received by men and women of the Metropolitan Police Department's (MPD) seven police districts and examined by the members of the Firearms Identification Unit (FIU), Washington, DC. The daunting task of an orderly receipt of almost three thousand firearms in a short period of time should be recognized.

In addition, the preparation of a report in such a narrow time frame required the combined efforts of the men and women of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) and they are also recognized for their assistance.

A MESSAGE FROM THE SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

We live in a society where the criminal misuse of firearms has caused indescribable damage and pain to families throughout this country. As the Nation's leading firearms enforcement agency, partnered with other Federal, State and local agencies, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) is dedicated to the role of reducing violent crime here in Washington, DC, across the country and around the world.

At the core of firearms-related violence are the illegal transfers of firearms into the hands of criminals and their use of firearms to commit crimes. The task of interdicting the flow of these illegally trafficked firearms is the common bond among all law enforcement agencies. With this in mind, the Washington Field Division of ATF will operate the Regional Crime Gun Center (RCGC).

The RCGC will be multi-tasked to centralize management of new and existing strategies and databases. These include On-Line Lead, the National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN), the National Instant Check System (NICS), the Youth Crime Gun Interdiction Initiative (YCGII), and criminal intelligence information garnered from the Lautenberg and Brady Acts.

On-Line Lead is ATF's firearms trafficking database. A multi-dimensional intelligence approach to identifying the illicit transfer, possession and trafficking of firearms, On-Line Lead is a direct link to ATF's National Tracing Center (NTC). With access to the NTC's more than one hundred million firearms transaction records from out of business dealers and the statutory authority to obtain firearms trace information on crime guns from active dealers, the system is unique to law enforcement. It is the premier tool for law enforcement agencies to identify criminal patterns and to assist in the prosecution of firearm violations.

The RCGC will team with other law enforcement agencies to identify the sources of illicit firearms in their areas. That information will be used to provide leads for investigators and to develop strategies to stop the flow of illicit firearms.

ATF's NIBIN system electronically catalogues thousands of records of projectiles (*bullets*) and the imprint the interior of firearm barrels. These unique records, or images, can be compared in minutes, a task that would have taken a lifetime if performed manually. With NIBIN, firearms and projectiles recovered from crime scenes are compared to those recovered from previous crimes to identify links and patterns to other crimes. The system has been used to successfully match firearms to crimes and suspects that would have otherwise gone undetected.

Under the NICS program, persons who are prohibited from possessing firearms and who subsequently attempt to purchase a firearm are identified and the purchase is denied. The identities of those persons denied are forwarded to the RCGC for further investigation. Many prohibited individuals who have been denied are also associated with other crimes including firearms trafficking and threats to public officials. The RCGC will attempt to identify persons for whom further investigation is warranted and refer that information to the appropriate local investigative office.

The RCGC places special emphasis on the identification and interdiction of sources of firearms to juveniles and young adults. As part of the center's aggressive tracing program and liaison with state and local agencies, firearms recoveries and traces involving juveniles and young adults are given priority in investigation. The RCGC's Washington Field Division was the first to perfect a firearms trafficking prosecution under the nationwide Youth Crime Gun Interdiction Initiative.

As the Federal steward of the legal firearms sales process, ATF is responsible for enforcing the provisions of the Brady Act. Persons who are prohibited from firearms possession must not be allowed access to firearms. Further, under the provisions of the Lautenberg Amendment to the Gun Control Act, a new category of person who may not possess or purchase firearms, the domestic violence misdemeanant, was created. In achieving one of its core missions - reducing violent crime - ATF and the RCGC are working closely with other law enforcement agencies to inform the public, prosecute violent offenders and reduce violence in our streets.

Patrick D. Hynes

INTRODUCTION

THE GUN BUY-BACK PROGRAM

In August 1999, the Washington DC, Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) organized a public gun buy-back program resulting in the recovery of 2,912 guns. The program took place in the District of Columbia where firearms registration is mandatory and where each year several thousand unregistered guns are recovered in crimes varying from unregistered possession to homicide.

In addition to receiving a fee for the surrendered guns, participants were granted amnesty for any violations associated with their possession of the gun at the time it was relinquished. The program was given the name *Operation Gun Tip* and was conducted in two phases spanning a total of seven days.

The first phase took place during a Monday through Friday period, August 9 through 13, 1999. The buy-back was based at one of the Police District Headquarters, the 6th District, in Washington, DC. During this first phase, 602 guns were recovered, a rate of approximately 120 guns per day.

The high volume of participation led to the second phase, which was a city-wide program, decentralized across the District of Columbia at each of the seven district headquarters of the police department. The second phase spanned over two days, August 23 and 24, 1999 and resulted in the recovery of an additional 2,310 guns¹, a rate of approximately 1,155 per day. Combined, the program averaged 415 gun recoveries per day.

The specific features of the first and second phases were the same. A fee of \$100 was paid for each gun turned over to the MPD. Individuals turning in firearms were granted conditional amnesty and were allowed to remain anonymous. The conditional amnesty went to the any violations which might have stemmed from participants' firearm possession. The firearms were generally presumed to be contraband and unlawful, based upon a number of potential violations including possession of an unregistered firearm and/or on possession of a firearm not registered to them. The characteristics of the 2,912 guns were recovered and the manner in which they entered the District where their possession is heavily restricted, are the topics of this study.

¹Two thousand three hundred six guns were recovered in the last two days of the program. Four additional guns which were turned in the day after the program ended were included, bringing the total gun recoveries for August 23 and 24 to 2,310 and the total for all recoveries under Operation Gun Tip to 2,912.

ABOUT THE STUDY

The recovery of 2,912 guns during a seven day period is extraordinary and far exceeds the number of firearms that would be taken into custody for crimes through normal police procedures in a given year in most cities, including the District of Columbia.¹ The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) as an executive agency does not have a position on gun buy-back programs. However, because the unlawful possession of a firearm is a crime (*in the District of Columbia it is a felony*) law enforcement does have a vested interest in the types of guns recovered, their origins, and whether the guns were used to commit other crimes.

Producing a report on this volume of firearms in a short period of time is a considerable undertaking. The processing of several thousand firearms, maintaining chain of custody, examining, and test firing, places a great strain on the police department's resources. The intake, examination and cataloguing alone took seven weeks to complete.

A subsequent period spanning another two weeks was then required to reconcile differences and correct errors which are expected when an inordinately large volume of data utilizes multiple points of data entry. An illustration of the issues faced in reconciling data, would be the multiple entries of a manufacturer's name. If the same manufacturer's name is entered in full for some firearms and abbreviated for others, though all are from the same manufacturer, the system will still see two independent manufacturers.

These processes limited the time available to complete the trace request process, receive the trace results, and examine and evaluate the findings. Because there was insufficient time to complete the trace process on all firearms, some of the analysis in later sections of this report relied on samples smaller than the total number of recoveries. This disparity did not skew the findings or affect any patterns or trends the study identified. As a matter of policy, ATF will not disclose the names of Federally licensed firearms dealers.

Each section of the report includes visual information (*charts/graphs*) to assist in understanding the statistics and terminology. Located at the end of the report is a glossary to provide further assistance in reading this document.

¹ Over the preceding five years, the MPD has had an average recovery rate of firearms associated with crimes of 2,165 per year. The average is based on the totals of 2,594/1994; 2,134/1995; 2,364/1996; 1,741/1997 and 1,749/1998. (These numbers exclude non-crime firearms taken into custody and the amnesty firearms recovered in the year 1994.)

Part I.

GUN RECOVERY DATA

GUN RECOVERY DATA

1. CHARACTERISTICS OF THE GUNS RECOVERED

Operation Gun Tip may be regarded as one of the largest buy-back amnesty programs in recent history. Although programs of this kind date back many years, the volume of guns recovered in only seven days is remarkable. To provide perspective, in 1974, Baltimore, Maryland, conducted perhaps one of the largest buy-back programs ever, recovering 15,000 guns over a 90-day period. Their program averaged 144 gun recoveries per day. Operation Gun Tip averaged more than 415 gun recoveries per day.

The large number of guns recovered posed a significant challenge to evidence custodians and firearms examiners who were tasked with taking them into custody and classifying them.

The first step, the process of taking this number of guns into custody, was an enormous undertaking. A police department would not normally process this number of firearms over the span of seven days, and only a small number of departments would reach or exceed that number in a year's time. Even though most of the guns will eventually be destroyed, each one had to be inventoried and tracked in the same manner as would firearms intended for use as evidence in a trial.

The 2,912 guns recovered were divided into nine categories of guns which are described in the following text, charts and graphs. Four of these nine categories used are pistols, revolvers, rifles and shotguns. These categories or classifications fall within the definition of the term "firearm" under Federal law¹. When the term *firearm* is used in this report it collectively describes the guns which fall in those four categories. The remaining five categories (*classifications*) are black powder, blank, pellet, replica and toy.

The 1999 Gun Buy-Back program yielded recoveries of 2,912 guns. For this study 2,796 were classified as firearms (*in the categories of pistols, revolvers, rifles and shotguns*) and 116 were classified under the categories of black powder, pellet, replica or toy.

More remarkable was that this many firearms were surrendered in a city where civilian firearms possession is closely regulated and handgun possession is virtually banned. More than 25 years ago, on September 24, 1976 the District of Columbia passed legislation with the intention of "freezing" the population of handguns in an effort to impact firearms-related violence in the city. Despite the restrictions imposed, hundreds of unregistered guns and firearms continue to be recovered each year in the District. In the past five years, the recovery of firearms associated with crimes including unlawful possession, has averaged 2,105 per year, an average daily recovery rate of 6 firearms per day.

In volume, the District's buy-back program represents well more than a year's normal recovery rate for all guns and an increase of approximately 393 in the daily average for recoveries of firearms associated with crimes. If it sustained, that rate of recovery would lead to a crime firearm recovery rate of approximately 37,350 per year.

¹The terms "gun" and "firearm" have different and specific meanings as used in this report. The Gun Control Act of 1968 (GCA) has a very specific definition for a firearm under Federal law. That definition can be found in the glossary at the end of this report. Although blank or starter pistols, under the GCA are considered firearms because they can be readily converted to fire projectiles, they are not included in the statistical calculations for "firearms" in this report.

²Excluded from the GCA's definition of firearm are many types of guns including black powder rifles, antique, replica and pellet guns. One hundred and sixteen of these types of guns were recovered during the buy-back program.