



**Testimony by DCTC member Jason A. Terry
before the DC Council Committee on the Judiciary
Oversight Hearing on Hate Crimes and Police Response
November 2, 2011**

Councilmember Mendelson and members of the Committee on the Judiciary, I submit testimony on behalf of the DC Trans Coalition (DCTC), a grassroots, community organization of transgender, transsexual and gender non-conforming people and their allies, dedicated to the protection and advancement of the rights of the entire transgender, transsexual and gender non-conforming community of the District of Columbia.

Since this committee last considered this topic on July 6, 2011, there has been a surge in anti-trans violence across the city. Trans people have always reported feeling unsafe when going about their lives in DC. After this past summer, that feeling has been exacerbated. Though virtually none of these crimes has been classified as bias-related, there is little doubt in community members' minds that hate has indeed played a role in these tragedies.

Summary of Recent Violence

There have been at least twenty violent attacks on transgender women since mid-July, based on police reports provided to DCTC by the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD). As we testified in July, however, these numbers are likely far too low, due to underreporting by both community members and police officers. HIPS, an outreach organization for sex workers and others on the streets, reports a 300 percent increase in "bad date" reports from trans clients from 2010 to 2011. Of these reported crimes, MPD has classified on three as bias-related, for an alleged total of five anti-trans bias crimes in 2011 (two were in April). We highlight here the most violent cases of the last 5 months, focusing on those we believe are indeed bias-motivated.

At approximately 4:26am on Wednesday, July 20, 23-year-old Lashai McLean was shot to death in the 6100 block of Dix Street NE. According to the Metropolitan Police Department, two men approached Ms. McLean and a friend and asked for money, then opened fire. The friend ran into Prince George's County for safety, and took several days to locate. Hundreds of people attended a vigil in her memory and her funeral. To date, police have made no arrests in the case, and have not kept us apprised as to the status of the investigation.

At around the same time on the morning of Monday, August 1, a trans woman was approached by two men and asked for money in the 6200 block of Dix Street NE. As the woman refused, the men opened fire, but the victim was able to escape to safety. Again, no arrests have been made. MPD now claims the two Dix Street attacks are unrelated.

In the early morning hours of August 20, two trans women were walking in the 400 block of I Street NW when four men approached them from an alley and demanded money. The two women flagged down two other trans women who had just driven away, and they leapt into their friends' car. At this point, the four men began firing shots at the car. No arrest was made.

At approximately 5:25am on August 26, Kenneth Furr, a drunk, off-duty police officer, climbed on top of a car at First and Pierce Streets NW, and fired five shots at the three trans women and two men in the vehicle. Three people were hospitalized. Apparently earlier in the morning at a nearby CVS Pharmacy, Furr had approached one of the women and solicited sex. She refused, and Furr flashed his gun. The MPD officer on the scene at the CVS took no action at that point, even though Furr was visibly drunk and violent. At the crime scene, Furr was apprehended from the hood of the victims' car and taken into custody. At least four hours after the crime, his blood alcohol level was more than twice the legal limit. Over 75 people, including Councilmember Tommy Wells, attended a rally against this violence later that day. Officer Furr is currently in jail awaiting trial.

Around 5:30am on Saturday, September 10, a body was found in the 2600 block of 11th Street NW. Three days later, the victim was identified as Gigi Gopalan, who had come out as trans in a letter to her friends a mere twelve days before her death. Over 200 people showed up at her vigil. Though the medical examiner has determined that Ms. Gopalan's death was homicide by blunt force trauma to the head, police have as yet made no tangible progress in the investigation.

Also on September 10, two trans women were assaulted at gunpoint in the 4000 block Minnesota Avenue SE. No arrest was made. Then on September 26, a trans woman was non-fatally stabbed in the 700 block of North Capitol Street NE, in an altercation between her and her friends and some men shouting hateful language. The suspects were arrested on scene. This is the only felony crime against a trans person this year where MPD noted bias-motivation.

And, yet, to get a picture of the real hatred faced by trans people in DC, we must look at the case of Friday, September 16. A makeshift memorial had been put up on Dix Street NE in the days after Lashai McLean's murder. There was a giant teddy bear, flowers, and a picture, all placed against a tree. On September 16, that memorial was burned. All that was left were two charred paws. That not even a memorial to a slain trans woman can be left in peace speaks to the severity of violence and discrimination that trans people have been facing in DC for decades.

Police Response

MPD immediately dropped the ball in the aftermath of Lashai McLean's death. Though about a dozen community activists sit on MPD's Gay and Lesbian Liaison Unit Critical Incident Team, which is supposed to receive fast notification of crimes against our communities, only one person received a phone call from MPD about Ms. McLean's murder – me. At the time, I was aboard a plane, and unable to return the call for at least eight hours. Meanwhile, activists and service providers were trying to piece together information on their own, without any outreach from MPD. For its part, MPD had released a photo of Ms. McLean – an old mug shot depicting her as male, along with her former name. I tried to piece together information between the time my plane landed and navigating immigration, and was shortly able to reach Assistant Chief Diane Groomes and provide her with the appropriate name for the victim (by this point available in the press), and suggestions for others in the community she should call – some of whom have been trans activists for decades. This crisis proved, though, that MPD had no clue how to make use of the activists and service providers it had assembled through the Critical Incident Team, and that confusion largely continues in seemingly endless discussions about team structure and mandate, all the while more people are victimized. Nonetheless, crisis communications have improved since, though largely the result of community agitation rather than any proactive steps on MPD's part.

At this Committee's request, Chief Lanier held two meetings with community activists on August 16 and August 31. The first meeting lasted well over two hours, but resulted in few substantive achievements. The second meeting was closed to "usual suspect" activists; nonetheless, the

message conveyed at both meetings was that relations between MPD and LGBT communities are quite strained. Chief Lanier, of course, added to that fire during an August 23 Critical Incident Team phone conference, called abruptly the night before, wherein she unprofessionally railed against a local trans activist who had complained to a member of media about insufficient police service following a friend's recent rape. Chief Lanier expressed then had we known all the facts, we would have had no need to call the press, and yet had taken no steps to inform either the victim or the Critical Incident Team that an arrest had in fact been made.

When Ms. Gopalan was found on September 10, police told us the deceased was an unidentified Latina trans woman. Activists spent the morning, and again that night, working the phones to account for every known Latina trans woman in town. For those known to live near the crime scene who had not answered their phone, we went and knocked on doors. Trans community members sat at the crime scene for hours, long after the police had packed up, talking to neighbors, trying to figure out what happened, and to whom. The next morning, DCTC member Ruby Corado was shown an autopsy photo of the victim, but was unable to make an identification. Ms. Corado asked that MPD release the photo then, but they instead waited until a press conference nearly 36 hours later. At that press conference, Assistant Chief Peter Newsham used derogatory language regarding the victim, referring to her as "a man in women's clothes," in spite of MPD policy requiring that gender expression be respected. Less than a day after that press conference, Ms. Gopalan was identified by a friend, who noted that the victim was in fact from India, not Latin America. This pattern of behavior demonstrates that MPD does not make murder investigations involving trans people a priority.

Ultimately, we have concluded that transphobia is rampant throughout the Metropolitan Police Department, at all levels. We reject the argument that people like Officer Furr are simply "bad apples." Instead, such officers are products of a culture wherein trans people are perpetually assumed to be criminals and threats to society. This transphobia became quite evident when Chief Lanier was absolutely outraged that her officers refused to take a report of an attack against five lesbian women in July, calling for them to lose their jobs. Yet when one of her officers got drunk and shot up a car full of trans people, Chief Lanier was noticeably silent. This inherent bias against trans people manifests itself in several ways:

- Failure to train all officers in how to appropriately interact with trans people,
- Failure to devote sufficient resources to solving crimes against trans people,
- Failure to gather adequate data on crimes involving trans people,
- Failure to discipline officers who act inappropriately towards trans people, and
- Increased likelihood of trans people facing arrest for non-violent crimes.

We spend much time contemplating why there is underreporting of anti-trans crimes to police and by police. Yet, with the cards so terrifically stacked against us, it should come as no surprise that trans people are frequently reluctant to seek police service. Furthermore, at the current pace, it would take 32 years for all MPD officers to receive training in interacting with trans people, so we can expect continued poor results from police officers at all levels. A state of conflict exists between MPD and DC's trans communities, and we have seen little serious interest from the police in taking tangible steps to gain our trust.

Roots of Anti-Trans Violence

The District of Columbia has some of the most progressive and inclusive human rights and bias crimes statutes in the nation. Our policies for how police and corrections officials should interact with trans people are being replicated throughout the country. And, yet, more trans people have

been murdered in the District of Columbia in the past decade than in any other city in the nation. In short, our laws and policies, however well intended, do not keep trans people safe.

In 2006, the year after the DC Council added gender identity and expression as a protected class under the Human Rights Act, this Council significantly weakened that act by granting the Chief of Police the authority to declare “Prostitution Free Zones” throughout the city, at her discretion. The history of criminalizing trans people – especially transgender women of color – runs long in this country.¹ Profiling trans people as sex workers is indeed such a prevalent occurrence that MPD’s General Order 501.02 on interacting with trans people explicitly states “Members shall not solely construe gender expression or presentation as reasonable suspicion or *prima facie* evidence that an individual is or has engaged in prostitution or any other crime.” Yet Prostitution Free Zones allow for exactly that suspicion to be made, and it almost always is. In effect, trans women are banished from given areas of the city at the police chief’s discretion.² Many of this year’s violent attacks on trans women have happened in or near these profiling zones. Thus by pushing trans women to less safe areas as a “crime control” tactic, this Council has effectively sanctioned their deaths.

This history of profiling and discrimination extends well beyond law enforcement. The vast majority of trans people found working the streets are there as victims of circumstance. As we remind officers in our police training classes, trans people face reinforcing cycles of poverty and oppression, especially in areas of employment, education, healthcare, and housing.³ The District government has only begun to address the rampant unemployment trans people face in the last two months, enrolling 23 people in the Department of Employment Services’ Project Empowerment. Hyper-aggressive enforcement of anti-sex work laws targeted at trans women only compounds their difficulties in finding employment in the formal economy and makes their attempts to earn a living that much more dangerous. We renew our call for legalization and regulation of sex work in DC – repealing the blatantly discriminatory Prostitution Free Zones as a first step – along with significantly faster pace in addressing discrimination-related education and employment disparities.

Recommendations

The time has come for DC to take a systemic approach to analyzing and preventing crimes against trans people. Transphobia in the police force must be proactively addressed, curtailing the failures noted earlier, and ending a culture of profiling. In particular, we recommend the following action steps by MPD:

- An immediate update on the status of investigations of violent crimes involving trans people, especially the seven unsolved homicides from the past decade,
- The reestablishment of the Fair and Inclusive Policing Task Force, with trans representation,
- Verifiable discipline taken against MPD officers who violate policy related to trans people, and

¹ This history is chronicled well in Joey L. Mogul, Andrea J. Ritchie, and Kay Whitlock, *Queer (In)Justice: The Criminalization of LGBT People in the United States*, Boston: Beacon Press, 2011.

² For a more detailed discussion of Prostitution Free Zones and their impacts on trans people, see Elijah Adiv Edelman, “‘This Area Has Been Declared a Prostitution Free Zone’: Discursive Formations of Space, the State and Trans ‘Sex Worker’ Bodies,” *The Journal of Homosexuality*, 58:848–864, 2011. See also Alliance for a Safe and Diverse DC. *Move Along: Policing Sex Work in Washington, DC*. April, 2008.

³ For local context, see DC Trans Coalition, “DC Trans Needs Assessment: Summary Findings – Phase One,” July 2011. For national context, see Jaime M. Grant, Lisa A. Mottet, Justin Tanis, Jack Harrison, Jody L. Herman and Mara Keisling, *Injustice at Every Turn: A Report of the National Transgender Discrimination Survey*, Washington: National Center for Transgender Equality and National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, 2011.

- A budget and timetable for ensuring that all MPD officers receive training in interacting with trans people, receiving community-informed curriculum, over the course of the next 18 months.

In addition, we recommend that the U.S. Attorney's Office:

- Ensure that all its staff are trained in handling cases involving trans people either as victims or perpetrators,
- Bring other federal elements in the DC legal system (U.S. Marshall's Service, Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency, and other law enforcement agencies) into compliance with the gender identity and expression provisions of DC's Human Rights Act, and
- Establish one or more seats for trans representatives on the Bias Crimes Task Force.

Moving forward, the District must take steps to curtail the many socio-economic disparities that trans people face. Addressing root causes of violence is the only way to truly prevent bias-motivated crimes. We are pleased that DC Public Schools is piloting an LGBT liaison program and considering new curricula on LGBT issues. We want to see more action to help trans people find jobs – hiring them to train police officers would be a terrific idea. We need more safe housing – especially for trans youth facing difficulties with their families. Finally, we need to remarkably improve access to trans-sensitive and trans-specific healthcare.

Enclosed with this testimony is a copy of questions submitted for this hearing that we would like to see directed toward Chief Lanier and U.S. Attorney Ron Machen, as well as a listing of crimes against trans people since July, compiled from police notices. I welcome any questions Councilmembers may have. Thank you.



October 27, 2011

The Honorable Phil Mendelson
Council of the District of Columbia
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20004

Re: Questions for November 2 Hearing on Hate Crimes

Dear Council Member Mendelson:

Thank you for calling another hearing on hate crimes next week. As you well know, since the Judiciary Committee last heard testimony on this subject in July, there has been a significant surge in violence, particularly directed at members of DC's transgender, transsexual, and gender non-conforming (hereafter, trans) communities. We look forward to presenting testimony on November 2.

In preparation for the upcoming hearing, we wanted to submit questions to you that we would like to see addressed by the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) and the U.S. Attorney's Office (USAO). The DC Trans Coalition and our allied organizations have been working closely with both agencies for many years, and especially in the last few months. Yet the recent violence has pointed out certain inadequacies that we feel must be addressed. Since officials at MPD and USAO have consistently given insufficient answers to our own inquiries, we are compelled to seek other avenues to ensure transparency and cooperation with the community. Our questions are as follows:

Failure to Solve Homicide Cases

- In July, several witnesses discussed the abysmal closure rate for homicides of trans victims. Unfortunately, since that time, we can add two more names to the list of open cases. Questions on the status of these investigations are repeatedly met with politicized non-answers. Many community members view these deaths as bias motivated, and the lack of transparency regarding these cases is deeply troubling. Can Chief Lanier provide specific details on the status of the following homicide investigations: Tyra Henderson (2000), Stephanie Davis (2002), Ukea Davis (2002), Imani Williams (2003), Ty'lia Mack (2009), LaShai McLean (2011), and Gigi Gopalan (2011)? What resources have been committed to ensure these cases are solved? Particularly for cases open for many years, can MPD share what information might be necessary to bring these cases to a close?

Failure to Address Biased Policing

- We can have no confidence that bias-motivated crimes will be appropriately investigated when we consistently receive reports of biased policing from trans community members. There was much confusion at the July hearing, but, in sum, the question raised by activists then was whether or not Chief Lanier intends to reinstate the Fair and Inclusive Policing Task Force (previously the Biased Policing Task Force), and if so, when, and if not, why not? This body is not to be confused with the Bias Crimes Task Force convened by the U.S. Attorney's Office.

- Twice in the past year, off-duty MPD officers have committed violent attacks against trans people. In December 2010, Officer Raphael Radon assaulted Chloe Moore after she asked for a light for her cigarette. In August of this year, Officer Kenneth Furr opened fire on a car full of five people after one of its trans occupants had earlier refused his sexual proposition. Victims in both cases were profiled as sex workers. Officer Furr is in jail awaiting trial, but Chief Lanier has persistently been unwilling or unable to answer whether or not Officer Radon has been suspended pending completion of an internal investigation, or even whether or not that investigation has concluded. As we see Officer Radon and others like him as a threat to our safety, can Chief Lanier definitively state if he is still on patrol, and what steps have been taken to prevent future such crimes?

Failure to Train Police Officers

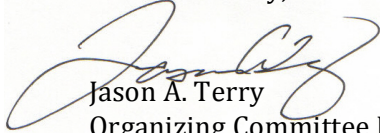
- MPD Chief Cathy Lanier testified in July that training on trans issues was part of annual professional development for all officers. At an August meeting with community activists, Chief Lanier seemed to contradict that statement, and encouraged us to submit a curriculum for such training. Can Chief Lanier say definitively whether or not all officers have received or will receive appropriate training on interacting with trans people, how that training will be delivered, by whom, and on what timetable?
- DCTC and our allies have participated in the training program for MPD's Special Liaison Division since June 2010, and in that time have trained 124 officers. In that time, we have provided both introductory and advanced classes. However, MPD Special Order 11-15 notes that only the introductory class is required in order for an officer to be considered an affiliate officer of the Special Liaison Division. Additionally, when this program was conceived, we were told that all affiliate officers who went through this training would be sent through 30-day rotations with their chosen liaison unit (Gay and Lesbian, Asian, Latino, Deaf/Hard of Hearing), but this is nowhere to be found in the special order. Can Chief Lanier explain which officers are required to go through the advanced training class (24-hours of LGBT specific training) and whether or not affiliate officers are still being detailed to their assigned liaison unit?
- It is important to note that at the current pace, it would take approximately 32 years to train the roughly 4,000 members of MPD. At a community meeting in September, we were informed that LGBT community organizations would also be asked to train all 300 of the new recruits authorized in this fiscal year. Thus far, all trainings have been conducted without compensation, and without a memorandum of understanding between MPD and the training providers (in spite of our best efforts to the contrary). Can Chief Lanier explain when MPD will seek the necessary resources to ensure that training occurs at a reasonable pace without overburdening the many volunteers who freely give their time to conduct these trainings?

Failure to Prosecute

- Finally, it is important to note that in the rare circumstances when MPD closes a case involving a trans victim, the U.S. Attorney's Office seems disinterested in justice. Others have spoken to the failure to prosecute perpetrators of crimes against LGBT people. In an assault case from September involving a trans victim, prosecutors filed documents with the court using the offensive pronoun "it" regarding the victim and made repeated reference to her previous record as a sex worker, even though it bore no relevance to the case. Can U.S. Attorney Ron Machen ensure that prosecutors are competent and willing to prosecute cases against trans victims, and what are his plans for doing so?

We sincerely hope that you share our concern regarding these vital questions, and we look forward to hearing answers to them during next Tuesday's hearing. If my colleagues and I can be helpful to you and your staff in preparation for this hearing, please do not hesitate to contact us at 202.681.3282 or at dctc@dctranscoalition.org. Once again, thank you for your continued oversight and vigilance on this issue, and we look forward to speaking with you on Tuesday.

Yours sincerely,



Jason A. Terry
Organizing Committee Member
DC Trans Coalition

CC: The Honorable Kwame Brown, Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia
The Honorable Yvette Alexander, Council of the District of Columbia
The Honorable Marion Barry, Council of the District of Columbia
The Honorable Muriel Bowser, Council of the District of Columbia
The Honorable Michael Brown, Council of the District of Columbia
The Honorable David Catania, Council of the District of Columbia
The Honorable Mary Cheh, Council of the District of Columbia
The Honorable Jack Evans, Council of the District of Columbia
The Honorable Jim Graham, Council of the District of Columbia
The Honorable Vincent Orange, Council of the District of Columbia
The Honorable Harry Thomas, Jr., Council of the District of Columbia
The Honorable Tommy Wells, Council of the District of Columbia
Jessica Jacobs, Legislative Counsel, DC Council Judiciary Committee
Andrew Barnett, Sexual Minority Youth Assistance League
Cyndee Clay, HIPS
Amy Loudermilk, Rainbow Response Coalition
Rick Rosendall, Gay and Lesbian Activists Alliance
A.J. Singletary, GLOV – DC's LGBT Anti-Violence Task Force
Brian Watson, Transgender Health Empowerment

Summary of Violent Crimes Committed Against Trans People since July 20, 2011

As reported by the Metropolitan Police Department

Date	Case Number	Location	Police District	Arrest Made?	Bias Classification?	Alleged Crime
7/20/2011	unknown	6100 block Dix St NE	6	No arrest	No	Homicide
MPD Synopsis	[At approximately 4:26am on Wednesday, July 20, 23-year-old Lashai McLean was shot to death in the 6100 block of Dix Street NE. According to police, two men approached Ms. McLean and a friend and asked for money, then opened fire. The friend ran into Prince George's County for safety, and took several days to locate.]*					
8/1/2011	unknown	6200 block Dix St NE	6	No arrest	No	ADW Gun
MPD Synopsis	Members of the Sixth district are investigating an assault with a gun that took place on 08/01/11 in the early morning hours in the 6200 block of Dix St. N.E. The complainant (C-1) was approached by a suspect (S-1) who asked C-1 for change. C-1 and S-1 became engaged in a verbal altercation. During the course of the verbal altercation S-1 produced a black semi-automatic handgun and fired one shot at C-1, which didn't take effect. S-1 then fled the location running West bound towards the 6100 block of Dix St. N.E. C-1 fled into P.G. County and called police.					
8/2/2011	111-468	6th & K Sts NW	1	Arrest	No	Robbery
MPD Synopsis	At approximately 0303 hours, MPD members were flagged down near 6th & K St NW by a complainant who had just been the victim of a purse snatch. Officers responded to the area and stopped a subject who was later positively identified by the victim. Case Closed with arrest.					
8/2/2011	111-475	6th & K Sts NW	1	Arrest	No	Robbery
MPD Synopsis	At approximately 0330 hours near 6th & K St NW, MPD members were flagged down regarding another robbery purse snatch that had just occurred. A passing minivan slowed and stopped, and she approached. A subject jumped from the van and snatched her purse. Three subjects fled in the van. Shortly thereafter, canvassing officers spotted and stopped the van and occupants. Two suspects were arrested.					
8/17/2011	120-570	600 block NY Ave NE	5	No arrest	no	Robbery
MPD Synopsis	Members of the 5th district are investigating a robbery that took place in the 600 block of NY Ave NE on 08/17/11 at 2100 hours. The complainant (C-1) reports that she received a ride from an unknown male from Florida Ave to her hotel. The unknown male (S-1) asked C-1 a series of sexual questions. C-1 became uneasy and when S-1 parked his vehicle in front of the hotel C-1 tried to jump out and run. Before C-1 could get out S-1 grabbed C-1's phone and wouldn't give it back. S-1 drove away with C-1's phone. C-1 is a transgender m/f and perceived that this event occurred because she is transgendered. C-1 did not report this information until 1500 hours on 08/18/11					

* Text in [brackets] indicates that MPD provided no synopsis in this case or information was added for clarity.

Date	Case Number	Location	Police District	Arrest Made?	Bias Classification?	Alleged Crime
8/20/2011	11-121422	400 block of I St NW	1	No arrest	yes	ADW Gun + Assault w/ Intent to Rob
MPD Synopsis	C1 reports she was speaking with her friends when a S1, S2, S3, and S4 walked out of the alley towards them. S1 stated " Empty your bag" and " Give me your \$h!t" S1 pulled out his gun and pointed it at C1 and C2. C1 and C2 at this point began backing up and C2 waved for C3 to come towards them. C3 turned her vehicle and came back to the location. C1 and C2 jumped in the vehicle and C3drove southbound pulled out her cell phone to call 911. C3 then turned her vehicle back around and headed back toward S1, S2, S3, and S4 to give the dispatch a better description. S1 began shouting Homophobic epithets. S1 and S2 pointed their guns at the vehicle and began shooting. S3 and S4 stood by the side using homophobic epithets. S1 and S2 were last seen running northbound. S3 and S4's last scene direction wasn't clear. C1-C4 are transgendered females.					
8/20/2011	11-120393	3500 block 13th St NW	3	Arrest	no	1st Degree Sexual Abuse/DV
MPD Synopsis	[Trans woman complainant beaten, attacked with knife, and raped by ex-boyfriend.]*					
8/23/2011	11-123335	Dupont Circle	3	Arrest	yes	Threats/Simple assault/Destruction of Property
MPD Synopsis	At approximately 1900 hours, C-1 was at the listed address when she and S-1 became engaged in a heated verbal argument. S-1 then began using homophobic remarks towards C-1. After a heated verbal exchange, S-1 threatened C-1. S-1 also knocked C-1's phone out of her hand and stepped on the C-1's hand and phone as C-1 tried to retrieve the phone from the ground. S-1 was arrested on scene. GLLU was notified.					
8/24/2011	123-988	1400 block of Otis St NW	3	No arrest	yes	Simple Assault
MPD Synopsis	C-1 reports while walking in 1400 block of Otis St. N.W. an unknown male suspect pushed her with his hands forcefully. C-1reports the unknown male suspect said "Go to hell Fag-got" as he fled the scene. C-1 received no physical injuries. Both the C-1 and S-1 are Spanish speaking. C-1 is a transgender female.					
8/26/2011	unknown	Unit block Pierce St NW	1	No arrest	No	Armed Sexual Abuse
MPD Synopsis	Members of the 1st district are investigating a reported armed sexual abuse and robbery case. The complainant has preliminarily been identified as a member of the transgender community.					
8/26/2011	11-124628	100 block Pierce St NW	1	Arrest	No	DWI + ADW Gun
MPD Synopsis	Preliminary investigation reveals a confrontation occurred involving an off duty officer and five other individuals, some of which are members of the transgender community. The officer discharged a handgun and one person was shot and sustained non life threatening injuries. Two other individuals involved in the incident sustained injuries which are also non life threatening. The nature of those injuries is under investigation to determine their cause. The off duty officer is currently charged with Driving While Intoxicated and Assault with a Dangerous Weapon (Gun). [Kenneth Furr case]					

* Text in [brackets] indicates that MPD provided no synopsis in this case or information was added for clarity.

Summary of Violent Crimes Committed Against Trans People since July 20, 2011

As reported by the Metropolitan Police Department

Date	Case Number	Location	Police District	Arrest Made?	Bias Classification?	Alleged Crime
8/27/2011	unknown	3500 Center St NW	unknown	unknown	No	Robbery Snatch/DV
MPD Synopsis	Complainant (C-1) reports while walking the 3500 block of Center St., N.W., her purse was snatched by a male suspect. Further investigation revealed that Suspect is complainant's former boyfriend. Complainant reports that she and suspect were involved in a two month relationship. Complainant is a transgender female. Complainant and Suspect are both Spanish speakers. No bias reported.					
8/31/2011	11127805	400 I St NW	1	No arrest	unknown	Threats
MPD Synopsis	Around 0025 hours, both Complainants #1 and 2 saw the suspect walk toward them. The suspect advised both complainants that they have 5 minutes to leave the block and informed other people that he will come back and shoot up everything. The suspect was last seen in the 400 block of H Street, NW.					
9/3/2011	unknown	5th & K Sts NW	1	arrest	No	Possession of Prohibited Weapon
MPD Synopsis	On Saturday September 3, 2011 at approximately 0600 hours a 1D Officer was advised by a transgender subject that two suspects were riding in a car in the area of 5th & K Sts NW attempting to rob transgender women in the area. The officer shared this information with his co-workers and a short time later another 1D officer saw a vehicle matching the description back in the K St area. That officer attempted to stop the suspect at which time the suspect vehicle fled. The suspects were subsequently stopped at 7th and L Sts NW. The suspects were both arrested and charged with Possession of a Prohibited Weapon(b) and the driver was also charged with Reckless Driving. No victims of the reported robbery attempts were located and the suspects did not provide additional information on the debrief.					
9/10/2011	unknown	11th & Fairmont NW	3	no arrest	No	Homicide
MPD Synopsis	On 09-10-11 in the early morning hours, MPD responded to a call for an unconscious unresponsive individual in the 2600 block of 11th St NW. The individual was transported to a local hospital and was subsequently pronounced dead. This case is being investigated by members of the Homicide Branch. [Gigi Gopalan case]*					
9/10/2011	132-431	4000 Minn Ave SE	7	arrest	Yes	ADW Gun
MPD Synopsis	C-1 and C-2 and C-3 report that while in the 4000 blk of Minnesota Ave SE a suspect approached the complainants said, "what's up?" and brandished a firearm. Preliminary investigation reveals that the complainants are members of the transgender community. Complainants believe the assault was due to their identity.					
9/12/2011	unknown	23rd & Savannah SE	7	arrest	No	Assault with Intent to Kill While Armed
MPD Synopsis	Complainant (C-1) reports that on 09-12-11, while at 23rd and Savannah St. S.E, she was shot by a known suspect during an altercation in a vehicle. C-1 received one gun shot to the neck. C-1 was transported to a local hospital for treatment.					

* Text in [brackets] indicates that MPD provided no synopsis in this case or information was added for clarity.

Summary of Violent Crimes Committed Against Trans People since July 20, 2011

As reported by the Metropolitan Police Department

Date	Case Number	Location	Police District	Arrest Made?	Bias Classification?	Alleged Crime
9/16/2011	unknown	6100 Dix St NE	6	no arrest	no	Arson Incident
MPD Synopsis	On 9-16-11 members of the 6th district responded to the area of 62nd and Dix in reference to a fire. The make shift memorial of a homicide victim had apparently been set on fire. An incident report was taken documenting the event.					
9/19/2011	unknown	1500 North Capitol St NW	5	no arrest	no	Robbery
MPD Synopsis	On 9-19-11, members of the 5th district responded to the area of 1500 North Capitol St., NW, for a robbery report. A complainant (C-1) was walking through the rear alley of 1500 North Capital Street, NW., when she observed a suspect (S-1) following her. As he approached her he had his left hand in his jacket pocket and stated, "Give me your stuff." S-1 then grabbed her wallet with his right hand and fled the alley onto Bates Street, NW, where he made good his escape.					
9/26/2011	unknown	North Capitol & H Sts NE	5	arrest	yes	ADW Knife
MPD Synopsis	Complainant (a transgender female) was walking in the 700 Block of North Capitol St with her friends when two male suspects approached them. The males were directing homophobic language towards the complainant and her friends. The altercation escalated when the complainant and suspects began physically fighting over the hateful words used. At that time one of the suspects produced a knife and stabbed the complainant once in the abdomen. Complainant was transported to Medstar with non life threatening injuries. Responding officers were able to arrest both suspects. Complainant was previously acquainted with the suspects.					
10/22/2011	unknown	Unit block Florida Ave NE	5	no arrest	yes	Bias incident
MPD Synopsis	ALU Official responded to assist 5th District officers in reference to Hate Crime Incident where the incident took place on the Metro Bus in the Unit block of Florida Ave., NE. A passenger of the Metro Bus said derogatory words to the victim who appeared to be a transgender. There were an altercation between the Transgender and the male passenger. GLLU Officers were responding and on the scene to assist the officers. Fifth District officer took Hate Crime Incident report.					
10/24/2011	unknown	6100 block Dix St NE	6	arrest	no	Assault
MPD Synopsis	On 10/24/11 at 61st & Dix St NE, a complainant (C1) reports that she was assaulted by 2 suspects(S-1, 2). C-1 was attacked by S-1, 2 who threatened and assaulted C-1. S-1 &2 were arrested on scene.					
10/27/2011	157-754	1200 Blk Sumner Rd SE	7	no arrest	no	Armed sexual assault/robbery
MPD Synopsis	C-1 reports that while she was seated in a vehicle an unknown male(S-1) approached her with a gun and attempted to rob C-1. C-1 stated that she did not have anything. S-1 then grabbed C-1's purse and forced C-1 to perform oral sex on him at gun point. S-1 fled the scene after the offense. Initial investigation does not reveal any bias motivation. C-1 identifies as a transgender female.					

* Text in [brackets] indicates that MPD provided no synopsis in this case or information was added for clarity.