

ANC 6B February 2025 Public Safety Committee Report for the virtual meeting held on February 24, 2025, from 6:30 – 8:30p.m.

Committee Chair Brian Gorman, Commissioner, 6B04

AGENDA & REPORT

1. Welcome & Introductions for Guests and Members of the Public

Chair called the meeting to order noting the committee had a quorum. The meeting agenda was adopted unanimously.

Commissioner David Sobelsohn [6B03]
Commissioner Anna Krebs [6B06]
Commissioner Samuel Pastore [6B05]
Commissioner Karen Hughes [6B09]
Michelle Lieber [6B01]
Frank Boudra [6B01] – alternate
Chuck Schmoyer [6B03]
John Schwab [6B03] – alternate
Elliot Mamet [6B04] – alternate
Ann Keep [6B05]
Lisa Matsumoto [6B06]
Kelly Waud [6B07]
Cinnamon Butler [6B08]
Eric Miller [6B09]

2. Crime Trends Presentation, Captain Adam Crist, MPD First District

Captain Crist noted a decrease in thefts since the last meeting but an increase in carjackings. He highlighted a recent shooting incident and three reported burglaries. He noted the prevalence of designer jacket robberies, including of the Moose Knuckles brand. He encouraged the use of Amazon lockers for package deliveries to prevent theft. He also mentioned that MPD is starting a monthly meeting for PSAs 106 and 107, covering areas including the Navy Yard and the Pennsylvania Avenue corridor.

- Commissioner Sobelsohn asked about the location of a reported burglary, and Captain Crist indicated it was on the 1000 block of South Carolina Avenue.
- Resident Member Lieber raised concerns about a specific incident involving the theft of a designer jacket on the metro, and Captain Crist promised to look into it.



- Alternate RM Schwab asked about wheel theft and carjackings, and Captain Crist responded that although wheel theft is still a problem, it is not as widespread as it used to be.
- Following up on concerns raised by Commissioner Pastore about an illegal pot shop on 2nd Street SE, Commissioner Sobelsohn raised asked about the process of dealing with illegal pot shops. Captain Crist Adam responded that the first step is to file a complaint with ABCA. If the shop continues to operate against cease and desist letters, then the MPD assists in shutting it down.

3. Public Safety Legislation Briefing: Erik Salmi, Deputy Chief of Staff for the Office of CM Allen and Antonio Nunes, Legislative Director for the Office of CM Allen

- Legislative Director Nunes provided an update on the Secure DC, which included the rebuttable presumption for pretrial detention for defendants charged with a violent or a dangerous crime. The Council extended this provision until July to allow for a report from the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council.
- Deputy Chief of Staff Salmi added that a housing bill was introduced that includes a provision to fast-track evictions if a tenant has been arrested for a violent crime.
- In response to inquiries about the relationship between the office of the Attorney General (OAG) and the city council, Nunes mentioned that the OAG provides quarterly updates on their operations and issues they're facing.
- RM Schmoyer asked about the progress of Department of Forensic Sciences (DFS).
 Nunes noted DFS's accreditation for fingerprints and ongoing issues with firearms testing.
- RM Butler asked for updates on CM White's Youth Mentorship through Community Engagement Act and the need for updates on its implementation. Salmi explained that the legislation passed through committee but requires budget funding for implementation. The committee expressed interest in tracking the bill's progress.
- Commissioner Pastore inquired about accelerated installation of bollards at Eastern Market, which Salmi noted CM Allen supports.

4. Topics for future meetings with OAG and US Attorney for DC

- Concerns were expressed about the priorities of the US Attorney's office, particularly in relation to public safety. It was suggested that the Committee and/or ANC6B seek to understand the US Attorney's priorities and the plan to protect DC residents.
- It was suggested that the committee frame its requests as an opportunity or the current US Attorney to continue improvements on prosecution rates and transparency with the public on metrics related to prosecution rates.
- Another suggestion was to ask the US Attorney's office about barriers to its ability to prosecute cases and how the community can help.
- The issue of slow judicial appointments potentially impacting prosecution rates was also raised as a potential topic.



- In response to questions about capacity of the US Attorney's Office, the committee noted its role in prosecuting major crimes in DC. As a result of the US Attorney for DC's role in prosecuting federal crimes and DC crimes, it is one of the largest in the country.
- With respect to OAG, the committee suggested questions focused on intervention to prevent juvenile crime, victims' services, development and use of restorative justice.

5. Eastern Market Community Advisory Committee (EMCAC) Letter on Security Barriers

- Commissioner Pastore shared a draft letter from EMCAC's Public Safety Committee regarding the need for immediate installation of non-retractable barriers and an increase in personnel and management around Eastern Market.
- The committee discussed the letter and agreed to draft a sign-on letter to be sent to DGS and other relevant authorities. RM Waud suggested specifying the need for sidewalk protection and separating it from street protection.
- The committee voted unanimously to move forward with drafting the letter. Commissioner Pastore and RM Waud agreed to take on the task of drafting.