

# ANC 1A Public Safety Committee Report for April 13, 2011

*Prepared by: Cecilia Jones, ANC 1A Public Safety Committee Chair*

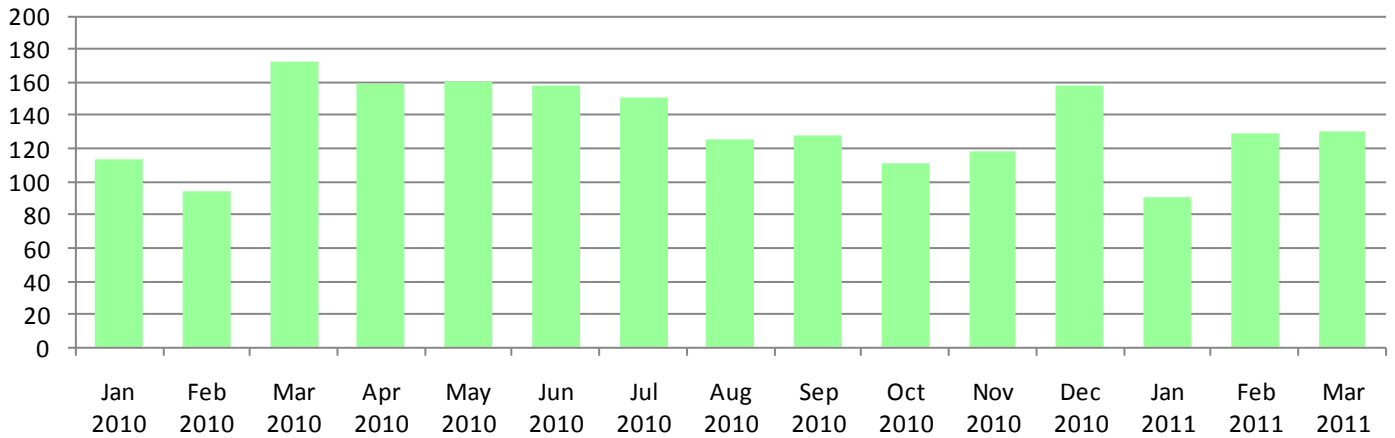
## Upcoming Public Safety Events:

### NWCHCA Criminal Justice Community Public Forum

Tuesday, April 19, 2011, 6:30 – 8:30 PM, St. Stephens Episcopal Church, 1525 Newton Street NW  
 MPD Chief Cathy Lanier, CM Jim Graham, CM Phil Mendelson, Chief Judge Lee Satterfield, and other top leaders.

## Recent Rise in Crime is Driven by an Increase in Burglaries:

### Total Crimes Reported in ANC 1A by Month



Crimes Reported in ANC 1A																
Crime Reported	Month															Total
	Jan 2010	Feb 2010	Mar 2010	Apr 2010	May 2010	Jun 2010	Jul 2010	Aug 2010	Sep 2010	Oct 2010	Nov 2010	Dec 2010	Jan 2011	Feb 2011	Mar 2011	
ADW	6	9	12	17	9	19	11	9	5	5	10	9	2	10	6	139
BURGLARY	8	7	7	10	7	3	5	8	14	13	13	11	12	20	23	161
HOMICIDE			1			1	1					1		1		5
ROBBERY	19	10	31	25	19	35	25	14	25	13	21	13	11	18	17	296
ASSAULT W/INTENT	2	4	2	3	2	1	3	1	2	1	4		1	3	1	30
ATTEMPT				2	2	1	1		3				2	1		12
CAR JACKING			1				1	1	1			1				5
F&V	6	2	9	8	11	17	14	3	6	8	8	7	2	6	6	113
FEAR		1	2		1	2		2	3		2		1	4		18
GUN	4	3	8	2	3	5	2	2	7	1	2		4	3	5	51
KNIFE	1		1	4		5		1		2		3		1	1	19
OTHER ARMED			2	2		2		2			1				1	10
P/P, PBS, SNATCH	6		6	4		2	4	2	3	1	4	2	1		3	38
SEX ABUSE	2	2		1		3	1	3		1	2	1		1	2	19
STOLEN AUTO	8	7	9	7	11	7	15	4	7	10	6	7	4	4	7	113
THEFT	31	24	32	31	53	45	55	42	37	38	28	64	30	53	47	610
THEFT F/AUTO	39	35	81	68	62	45	38	46	40	31	38	52	32	22	28	657
Grand Total	113	94	173	159	161	158	151	126	128	111	118	158	91	129	130	2000

Data Source: MPD's "Crimemap" – <http://crimemap.dc.gov/presentation/intro.asp>

#### Key to Crime Abbreviations:

ADW = Assault with a Dangerous Weapon

Sex Abuse Includes Rape and Other Sexual Assaults, Child or Adult

Theft F/Auto = Theft from Auto (Car Break-ins)

Robbery:

F&V = Force and Violence (A Beating, No Weapon)

P/P = Pickpocket

PBS = Pocketbook Snatch (Purse Snatching)

## ***Criminal Justice Accountability Initiative: Protecting the Next Victim is Everyone's Responsibility***

Many are not aware of the problem of chronic repeat criminal offenders in our community. The same defendants commit crime after crime, are arrested, sentenced and then released, only to commit more crimes. It's up to us to help "close the revolving door" and see that our system hands down meaningful sentencing, along with appropriate rehabilitation.

There are ways that ordinary people with busy lives can become more involved. The Community Criminal Justice Accountability Initiative (CCJAI) program began in Columbia Heights in April of 2009 to address public safety concerns and chronic repeat offenses. CCJAI, a partnership of law enforcement, criminal justice agencies and community members, has submitted over 80 Community Impact Statements to judges at sentencing, and has tracked close to 700 criminal cases. We are working for better outcomes for all concerned. You can help by writing Community Impact Statements for criminal cases in your neighborhood.

### ***Neighborhood Watch: A Block Captain on Every Block of Columbia Heights is Our Goal!***

Crime wouldn't stand a chance if every block in Columbia Heights were a "network" of active, involved neighbors.

For more information about Neighborhood Watch or CCJAI: Send an e-mail to [nwchca@gmail.com](mailto:nwchca@gmail.com).

### ***What Can Community Members Do Right Now to Reduce Crime?***

- Above all, don't make yourself an easy target for crimes. Take precautions and act responsibly.
  - Never leave belongings visible in a parked car.
  - At home, take special precautions when you leave town so that burglars will think you are home.
  - At the gym, secure your belongings with a sturdy lock.
  - Never leave purses, wallets, cell phones or electronics unattended in public places like restaurants.
  - Since many robberies happen late at night, be especially cautious if you're out past midnight. If a stranger approaches you, do not engage. Take a cab, or stay on major streets.
  - Robberies occur at all times of day, so be aware of your surroundings at all times while walking or on the Metro. Avoid talking on the phone as you walk or in public places.
  - If something or someone appears suspicious, trust your instincts, and go to a safe place (if possible). Report suspicious behavior to the police.
- Take the time to report every crime to the police. Don't take "no" for an answer. Go to the police station if you have to. Crime reports drive metrics that affect police presence in our communities.
- If you are the victim of a crime or a witness, cooperate fully with the police and prosecutors.
- Become a Neighborhood Watch Block Captain (contact me for a training package). Encourage your neighbors to report crimes to the police.
- Become familiar with the conditions of release of criminals on parole or probation in your neighborhood. Report violations to the police.
- Get involved in Court Watch in your area. Write community impact statements to let judges know how crime in your neighborhood affects you and your family. Visit the courts to observe trial proceedings. Do your Jury Duty service.
- Become more active in community affairs. Get to know all your neighbors. Do community service. Join or start a neighborhood community group. Participate in your ANC meetings. Get to know your public officials and community stakeholders. Support community events. Be visible--organize a neighborhood cleanup or a community garden.