



## PRESS RELEASE

### DC Police Union Statement on 100<sup>th</sup> Homicide in 2023

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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On June 6, Washington, D.C. suffered its 100<sup>th</sup> homicide in 2023. This is the earliest date in any year that the city has reached 100 homicides since 2003.

In 2022, the 100<sup>th</sup> homicide was recorded on June 24. In 2021, the date was July 10. Over the past 10 years, the average date that we have reached this grim marker is October 25.

Crime data on the department's website shows that homicides in 2023 have increased 15% this year and we are on pace for a third year in a row to exceed 200 homicides. Homicides in Ward 6 are up 133% this year. Robberies citywide are up 34%. Just this year alone there have been 321 carjackings in DC, a 57% increase over last year.

"This increase in crime is due to the DC Council's implementation of misguided 'police reform' legislation," said Gregg Pemberton, Chairman of the DC Police Union. "The Council's actions have had a chilling effect on professional and responsible policing and caused over 1,200 police officers to leave the agency."

In June 2020, numerous DC Council members began demonizing police officers and, at the same time, enacted misguided legislation under the guise of "police reform." This bill has had the unintended consequence of causing officers to leave MPD at an alarming rate, increasing crime in our most vulnerable communities, and negatively impacting police service. Congress recently took up a disapproval of this law, which passed the House and the Senate with bipartisan support; however, President Biden vetoed the effort, leaving DC residents stuck with these radical, anti-cop / pro-criminal laws.

Since the passage of these bills, **the MPD has lost over 1,200 police officers** to either retirement or resignation. What is most alarming is that most of those who have left, have resigned. This means more than half of these members have just turned in their badge and walked away. Today, the total strength of the police department is approximately 3,200 sworn officers, the lowest number in over 50 years.

"Resignations are now outpacing retirements, and recruiting numbers are abysmal. Without serious efforts to repeal this legislation," Pemberton said, "this situation will only continue to get worse."