

about the GLLU



The Metropolitan Police Department's Gay and Lesbian Liaison Unit (GLLU) is staffed by openly gay and lesbian members of the department and their allies. Since its inception in June 2000, the GLLU has dedicated itself to serving the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender (GLBT) communities in the Washington Metropolitan area and the Metropolitan Police Department (MPDC).

The GLLU is part of MPDC's Special Liaison Unit, which is also composed of units specializing in the Asian, Deaf and Hard of Hearing, and Latino communities. In addition to providing 24-hour police response to members of the GLBT communities and MPDC, the GLLU also:

- Advises the Chief of Police on issues surrounding the GLBT communities;
- Serves as a representative for MPDC at community events, civic meetings, government functions, and other related events;
- Serves on the Hate Crimes Task Force;
- Visits gay-owned/operated businesses, corporations, associations, and other groups that seek the support or assistance of the GLLU;
- Provides support and assistance with law enforcement investigations that involve members of the GLBT communities;
- Provides support to other city agencies with regard to law enforcement within the GLBT communities;
- Operates an MPDC recruiting booth at local pride festivals for both sworn and reserve police officers;
- Provides training and education to the GLBT communities and members of MPDC;
- Offers safety training tailored to members of the GLBT communities;
- Serves as peer counselors to members of the GLBT communities (youth and adult), referring individuals to proper resources as needed; and
- Supports and participates with the Mid-Atlantic Gay Officers' Action League (GOAL) in education and outreach efforts regarding GLBT policing issues.

Donations

The GLLU is supportive of all charitable groups, organizations, businesses and various other causes that benefit the GLBTQ communities and their related causes. Unfortunately, it is impossible to financially support all the worthy causes in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area. In an effort to be equitable, the GLLU and its members will not make donations to any of the above mentioned causes, however they will make every effort to attend events, provide non-financial support and otherwise seek to provide an environment of respect, professionalism and acceptance within MPDC.

Boards, Committees and Councils

Members of the GLLU will not serve as voting members of an organization's Board of Directors, Committees and/or Councils (or similar body). Instead, members of the GLLU will be available to serve as advisory and/or consultant members to committees, boards and councils. The GLLU's presence and participation at these gatherings will be for the purpose of providing technical and operational support, advice and insight.

Certain exceptions can be made, if approved by the Commanding Officer of the GLLU. These exceptions are made on a case-by-case basis—it will be taken into consideration the mission of the organization as well as the member's previous service to the organization.

Membership

Representatives of the GLLU will NOT become dues paying members of countless organizations, clubs, affiliations, etc. This decision is based upon the premise that all organization are worthy of the unit's attention and participation. It is financially impossible for members of the GLLU to belong to all of the worthy groups that exist within the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area. In an effort to be equitable, the GLLU will avoid displaying favoritism or preference to any particular group by not officially joining the membership. If a member of the GLLU wishes to belong to an organization, they do so as an individual and not as a representative of the GLLU or MPDC.

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GLLU factsheet

Gay and Lesbian Liaison Unit

Washington DC Metropolitan Police Department

Pager: 1-877-495-5995

Voicemail: 202-727-5427

Txt: pager@gllu.org

E-mail: gayliaisondc@hotmail.com

www.gllu.org