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## OAPIA Update

*News Updates from the DC Mayor's Office on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs*

A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR



VINCENT C. GRAY  
MAYOR

January 16, 2013

Dear Community Members,

When I took office two years ago, one of the top priorities I set was to ensure that every neighborhood is safe. I am pleased to report that we are making progress in reducing crime in our communities. Though one homicide is one too many, I welcomed the news from the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) that the District's homicide rate dropped to 88 murders in 2012, representing the lowest number on record since 1961, and a significant four-year drop in homicides.

Working with neighborhood leaders and residents, we are using every tool available to make our streets safer. I commend Chief Cathy L. Lanier and the men and women of MPD; however, the tremendous milestone for public safety also is due to the many courageous residents who step forward with important information to help police solve crimes.

Chief Lanier will tell you that officers can't do it alone. Fighting crime is built on cooperation and coordination. For example, this past year, OAPIA conducted a crime survey that provided information on the rate of crime reporting among the Asian American and Pacific Islander American community. The survey will help improve how the District government communicates with residents and hopefully will lead to a continued reduction in crime.

OAPIA and other District agencies will continue to partner with the police and the community to ensure the health and well-being of our residents.

Public safety in the District of Columbia has clearly been a top priority for my administration, and this will continue in 2013 as we work with MPD to ensure the District is a safe place for those who live, work and visit here.

Sincerely,  
  
Vincent C. Gray

## OAPIA NEWS

### OAPIA Spring Interns

OAPIA would like to welcome our newest spring interns: Christina Truong and Josephine Aviado.

*Christina Truong* was born in San Jose, California and is now currently participating in the University of California, Washington Center (UCDC) Program. She is expecting her



bachelor's degree in Sociology and Asian American Studies this March from the University of California, Santa Barbara. Through her choice of double majors, Christina has been able to learn about key issues affecting and shaping the Asian American and Pacific Islander community. Recently, she has returned from a semester study abroad in Vietnam where she interned for Hanoi Hope Center, an organization focused on re-socializing children with autism.

At OAPIA, Christina hopes to apply her knowledge to various work projects as well as gain a deeper understanding of the AAPI's needs specific to Washington, D.C. She hopes one day to return to Vietnam and work with an NGO there or find work in the U.S. which will allow her to directly help AAPI communities.



*Josephine Aviado* was born and raised in Manila, Philippines. She immigrated to the United States in 1998. She is a senior at the University of California - Santa Cruz, pursuing a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology. For her research assistantship, Josephine has been transcribing interviews of World War II Filipino veterans conducted both in the Philippines and the United States.

At OAPIA, Josephine hopes to learn more about the needs and concerns of Asian and Pacific Islander communities. Her long-term aspiration is to become a social worker.

## **OAPIA Hosts Community Meeting on Asian Liaison Unit**



*MPD Chief Cathy L Lanier responds to community over recent changes to the the Asian Liaison Unit in Chinatown.*

OAPIA organized a follow up community meeting on the Asian Liaison Unit (ALU) on January 8th at the Chinatown Community Cultural Center. Police Chief Cathy L. Lanier and 30 community members attended the meeting. Chief Lanier announced the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) does not plan to move ALU back to Gallery Place, but is committed to keeping ALU in Chinatown and is in the process of looking for a new location. The new location will be staffed by civilian staff, and not a police officer. *"The unit is not going away. The Asian Liaison Unit will continue to focus on Chinatown, the Asian community and businesses,"* said Chief Lanier.

MPD will continue to work with the community to receive input for possible locations. Participants agreed to hold another meeting in two weeks to discuss options for ALU locations. **The meeting will be held at CCCC (616 H street, NW, 2nd Floor) on Monday, February 4 at 6:15 p.m.**

*\*A public posting announcing the new ALU outreach coordinator position has been created and can be found below.*

## DISTRICT NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **Metropolitan Police Department is Looking for Bilingual Staff to Fill Position in Chinatown**

MPD is looking for a Community Outreach Coordinator (Bilingual). The position is open to the public and is open until filled.

Agency: Metropolitan Police Department, Patrol Services and School Security Bureau, Special

## Liaison Unit

Number of Vacancies: One (1)

Promotion Potential: No known promotion potential

"Pay Plan, Series & Grade: CS-0301-11

Salary Range: \$54,633 - \$70,437 Opening date: January 10, 2013

Closing Date: Open Until Filled

First Screening Date: January 31, 2013, and every two weeks thereafter.

Tour of Duty: 8:30 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.

**Brief Description of Duties:** Responsible for providing community services and translation of information and documents from English to Chinese. Promotes positive relationships between the officers of the Metropolitan Police Department and the members of the Chinese community by arranging community-related projects for the officers to leave position impacts; develops a comprehensive and collaborative approach to problem solving work; identifies assess, and map neighborhood assets, crime patterns and trends, indicators of community health that support final analysis of the community's overall condition; develops flyers, government services contacts, database of community contacts, assist with press releases and success stories that strengthen community relations and allows for ongoing correspondence; assists Chinese residents and business owners by interpreting documents and information concerning public safety; issues Business Emergency Notification Cards to Chinese community business owners and explain how to utilize various public safety services; advises and encourage youth and adults to utilize a variety of public safety and other District community services, recreational activities, health care, domestic violence, counseling, drug intervention programs, etc. ; receives complaints from the Chinese community, via telephone and in person visits; identifies the nature of the issue(s) and either personally resolves or forwards to the appropriate person; and assists detectives and officers by translating information to Chinese to complainants, suspects and/or witnesses who may be traumatized, hostile and/or reluctant to cooperate with the police. Determines the best approach to calm, reduce anxiety and acknowledge customs, etc., based on the circumstances of each encounter; translates various routine Departmental documents from English to Chinese, such as, legal notices, public safety notices, career expo campaigns, news release and community meeting notices; assists victims of violent crimes by translating information relative to filing victim claims with the District's Crime Victim's Assistance and Compensation Program; serves as the Departments liaison to the Office of Asian and Pacific Islanders Affairs and assist in coordinating efforts between Metropolitan Police Department, Federal agencies and local jurisdictions, such as , the Justice Department, FBI, Secret Service, P.G. and Montgomery County, etc., and representatives of professional, civic and state organizations.

### Qualifications

**Specialized Experience:** Experience that equipped the applicant with the particular knowledge, skills, and abilities to perform successfully the duties of the position, and that is typically in or related to the work of the position to be filled. To be creditable, at least one (1) year of specialized experience must have been equivalent to at least the next lower grade level in the normal line of progression for the occupation in the organization.

**Substitution of Education:** A substitution of education for required experience will be allowed as defined in OPM's Qualification Standards. However, in order to receive credit, applicants must submit official proof of educational attainment at the time of application.

**Contact Information:** All inquiries related to employment and job applications should be directed to **Ms. Marie A. Dawkins, Human Resource Management Division at (202) 727-4261.**

To apply online [click here](#)

## **ABRA (Alcoholic Beverage Regulation Administration)**

## Sunday Alcoholic Beverage Sale Legislation

\* Please click on the image to direct you to the ABRA website.



## NATIONAL NEWS FROM THE ASIAN AMERICAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER COMMUNITY

Indian-American Attorney General of California Kamala Harris and state lawmakers have joined hands to overturn a 140-year-old law under which a rape would be considered only if the victim is married.

[http://www.dnaindia.com/world/report\\_indian-american-makes-move-to-change-california-law-on-rape\\_1787240](http://www.dnaindia.com/world/report_indian-american-makes-move-to-change-california-law-on-rape_1787240)

HAWAII - Filipino-American Hawaii State Senator Donna Mercado Kim (D-Moanalua, Aiea, Kalihi Valley) has been selected as the new senate president of the Hawaii legislature.

<http://www.asianjournal.com/fil-am-news/3-filamnews/18863-fil-am-selected-as-hawaiis-senate-president.html>

## SPOTLIGHT: Martin Luther King, Jr. Day and Volunteer Opportunity

Martin Luther King Day is a federal holiday observed on the third day of January. It commemorates the life and achievements of Martin Luther King, Jr., a significant American civil rights leader. He organized campaigns to put an end to racial segregation on public transportation and for racial equality in the United States.

Martin Luther King was an influential civil rights activist. He was a leader in the movement to end racial segregation in the United States. He advocated for non-violence and was the youngest man presented with the Nobel Peace Prize. He was assassinated in 1968. Shortly after his death, a campaign was initiated for his birthday to become a holiday to honor him. Martin Luther King Day was first held in 1986 but was not observed in all states until 2000.

Martin Luther King Day is a fairly new federal holiday and there are a few long standing traditions. Some educational institutions celebrate the day by teaching students about the life and legacy of Martin Luther King, Jr. Federal legislation has recently urged Americans to spend some of their time to volunteer for citizen action groups. The MLK Day of Service is part of United We Serve - the President's national call to service initiative.

*On Saturday, January 19th, join [Serve DC](#) for [Unite America in Service](#). Serve DC, Points of Life, and Target invite you to attend the MLK national service project, "Unite America in Service," in Washington, DC. In partnership with Operation Gratitude, the Corporation for National and Community Service, Community Blueprint, HandsOn Greater DC Cares, Volunteer Fairfax, and the George Washington University, volunteers will show their gratitude to those who serve our country by packing 100,000 care kits filled with necessities for U.S. service members, wounded warriors, veterans, and first responders.*

Volunteers ages twelve to seventeen years old are welcome with parents or legal guardians. Large groups are also welcome to join. This event will take place at the DC Armory from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. Volunteer shifts will be two and a half hours each. [Register for Unite America in Service](#).

For more information on the MLK Day of Service in the District, please email Serve DC's Director of Communication and Special Initiatives at [clarence.fluker@dc.gov](mailto:clarence.fluker@dc.gov), or call **(202)727-7925**.

## DC MAYOR'S COMMISSION ON ASIAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER AFFAIRS

The DC Commission on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs usually convenes monthly meetings to discuss current issues affecting the DC AAPI community.

The next meeting will take place on **Wednesday, January 23, 2013 @ 6:30 pm** at the OAPIA office located at 441 4th Street, NW, Suite 721N, Washington, DC 20001.

All commission meetings are open to the public. If you have any questions about the commission or its meetings, please contact [oapia@dc.gov](mailto:oapia@dc.gov).

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