



HILLCREST COMMUNITY CIVIC ASSOCIATION

"Working Together for a Better Community"

www.hillcrestDC.com

3319 Alabama Avenue, S.E., Washington, D.C. 20020 phone: (202) 575-6101

November 5, 2005

To: Cmdr. Cathy Lanier
Special Operations Division
2301 L Street, NW
Washington, DC 20037

Cmdr. Robin Hoey
6th District MPD
100 42nd St., NE
Washington, D.C. 20019

Re: Commendation for Officer Wendell Cunningham

The Hillcrest Community Civic Association commends Officer Wendell Cunningham, a Hillcrest resident who is assigned to the Special Operations Division, for exceptional service to the Hillcrest neighborhood which lies within the 6th police District. As an SOD officer, Cunningham's work requires him to be downtown, but after (and sometimes before) his regular duty hours we see him driving slowly through the neighborhood on the look-out for trouble. And he finds plenty. He has foiled several attempted car thefts and has apprehended criminals in our neighborhood.

We very much appreciate the traffic-calming effect Cunningham has had on our busy streets, especially Branch Ave SE, where he regularly uses a radar gun to ticket speeders. Speeding and other traffic violations are among the major complaints at PSA meetings where Off. Cunningham consistently receives praise for his pro-activeness.

Officer Cunningham sets an example for other MPD officers who are District residents and have marked take-home cars. In our neighborhood, several officers have take-home cars, but we rarely see the officers themselves—only their cars parked in front of their houses. Many of us wonder why MPD does not encourage officers with take-home cars to be more active in their communities in return for the benefits of the car. We are fortunate to have an officer who understands the real meaning of community policing, from both the police and resident perspective.

We thank you, Cmdr. Lanier, and others in Officer Cunningham's chain of command for encouraging him to make our neighborhood safer. We thank you, Cmdr. Hoey, for recognizing the benefit of assistance from an additional officer, especially one who is willing to go above and beyond. As you have said on many occasions "we can use all the help we can get".

Mostly we thank Officer Cunningham for being such an asset to Hillcrest. We hope that he will

continue what he is doing for our neighborhood, to the extent that his schedule allows.

Sincerely,

Vincent Spaulding
President, HCCA

Cc:
Officer Wendell Cunningham, MPD/SOD
Chief Charles Ramsey, MPD
Asst. Chief Winston Robinson, MPD
Capt. Regis Bryant, MPD/SOD
Lt. Allen Thomas, MPD/SOD
Asst. Chief Willie Dandridge, ROC-East
Insp. Alton Bigelow, 6th District Substation, MPD
Lt. Ronald Netter, PSA 606, MPD