



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 2, 2025

Contact: Gregg Pemberton, Chairman

DC Police Union Endorses Mayor Bowser's Order on Federal Coordination, Calls for Urgent Repeal of D.C. Council's Harmful Legislation

Washington, D.C. – The DC Police Union, representing over 3,000 officers, detectives, and sergeants of the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD), today expresses strong support for Mayor Muriel Bowser's Order 2025-090, which establishes the Safe and Beautiful Emergency Operations Center (SBEOC) to facilitate coordination between District agencies and federal law enforcement in response to the ongoing crime crisis and the Presidential declaration of emergency. This order is a vital step toward enhancing public safety, addressing homelessness, beautification, and economic resilience through collaborative efforts with federal partners such as the FBI, DEA, ATF, U.S. Marshals Service, U.S. Park Police, U.S. Capitol Police, and U.S. Secret Service. We commend the Mayor for emphasizing public safety by requesting federal agents continue to assist local law enforcement to bring down crime.

However, while this coordination provides essential short-term support, it must not distract from the root causes of the MPD's challenges. The D.C. Council's misguided "reform" agenda, particularly the 2020 Comprehensive Policing and Justice Reform Act (CPJRA), has systematically dismantled the MPD, leading to historic staffing shortages, eroded morale, and surging crime. The Union reiterates that full repeal of the CPJRA and other detrimental laws is non-negotiable for long-term recovery and effective local policing.

Union Chairman Gregg Pemberton stated, "We fully endorse Mayor Bowser's order as a critical bridge to stabilize our city amid this escalating crisis. The MPD has been in freefall since 2020, with over 800 vacancies for the position of sworn officer. Overtime has skyrocketed to unsustainable levels, exceeding \$110 million this year alone. This order's focus on continued collaboration post-emergency aligns with our call for federal assistance, but it won't fix the damage unless the Council repeals the CPJRA, which has stripped officers of due process, imposed unworkable use-of-force standards, and exposed personnel to unnecessary risks."

"We stand ready to collaborate with Mayor Bowser and all stakeholders under this order to protect our city," Pemberton added. "But without repealing the Council's disastrous policies, the cycle of shortages, overwork, and crime will persist. This is a wake-up call—it's time for real reform that supports our officers and residents."

###