



## PRESS RELEASE

### DC Police Union Mourns the Line-of-Duty Death of Officer Terry Bennett

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Contact: Gregg Pemberton, President

Washington, D.C. – The DC Police Union expresses profound grief over the tragic line-of-duty death of Officer Terry Bennett, a dedicated nearly eight-year veteran of the Metropolitan Police Department. Officer Bennett succumbed to his injuries on January 7, 2026, following a devastating incident on December 23, 2025, while selflessly assisting a stranded motorist on Interstate 695.

At approximately 10:10 p.m. on December 23, Officer Bennett stopped to help a driver who had run out of gas in the eastbound lanes of I-695 near South Capitol Street. While standing outside his cruiser, he was struck by a vehicle traveling at a high rate of speed. Fellow officers immediately provided aid, and he was rushed to a local hospital, where medical professionals worked tirelessly for over two weeks to save his life.

Officer Bennett, 32, was a lifelong Washingtonian, born and raised in the District. A graduate of Ballou Senior High School and Bucknell University, he joined MPD in February 2018. Beyond his police service, Officer Bennett devoted more than a decade to mentoring youth in his community, serving as assistant head football coach and defensive coordinator at Ballou Senior High School, where he positively impacted countless young lives.

A devoted husband and father, Officer Bennett exemplified the highest ideals of public service. Helping others, building community trust, and giving back to his hometown were his priorities. His selfless decision to become an organ donor will continue his legacy of saving lives even in tragedy.

"Officer Terry Bennett represented the very best of our department and our union," said Gregg Pemberton, President of the Police Union. "He died doing what he always did: serving and protecting the people of Washington, D.C., with compassion and courage. Our hearts are broken for his wife, son, family, friends, and fellow officers. The entire law enforcement community stands with them in this unimaginable loss. We honor his sacrifice and commit to supporting his loved ones in the difficult days ahead."

Funeral arrangements will be announced when available. The union respectfully requests that the media and public honor the privacy of the Bennett family during this time of mourning.