

JULY SAFETY MEETING

Many of you have expressed concerns about your personal safety in light of the uptick in street crime in our neighborhoods. Some of you have mentioned the possibility of purchasing your first firearm. Vanessa McLemore, retired with 25 years of service from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), will be our featured speaker this month and will talk to us about personal safety and will give us some pointers for consideration when we make the trip to the firearms dealer.

We originally planned to have her at the June safety meeting, but a family emergency necessitated a rescheduling.

Vanessa, once the highest ranking African-American female in all of ATF, now lives in Midtown and is CEO of The McLemore Group, LLC, a public safety based consulting company with a focus on crime prevention and safety awareness.

You don't want to miss her presentation!

Lt. Little, who spoke with us last month, will attend to represent APD, along with MPESA's Sgt Cooper to give an update on the tree-lined streets of Midtown.

- ***This evening - Monday July 13th, 7pm, Mary Mac's (Ponce & Myrtle).***

PUBLIC SAFETY TIDBITS

Recidivist criminals are still getting out of jail and returning to our neighborhood streets at least as fast as they were locked up. Many of these criminals have 20 or more priors - first offenders are very rare in Midtown. Until the Fulton County Commission (not Atlanta City Council) significantly expands jail space to a more realistic level, much of the intown street crime will continue unfettered. Under these conditions much of the work of Atlanta's Finest is for naught.

The Kenneth Lamb dossier has been updated with recent photos - <http://www.midtownponce.org/news/profile040.pdf> - please continue to help us keep tabs on him until we can be reassured he will not return to Midtown.

Kim Paige, who assaulted a local woman in traffic at 5th & Peachtree [remains in jail](#).

Ricky Love (violent psychopath) and Donald Rayfield (major burglar) remain in jail.

The [Midtown Mugging](#) from late last year can be deemed a cold case - he's probably still out there somewhere...

The Piedmont Park killer is becoming a cold case - [he \(or she\) is also out there roaming around somewhere...](#)

The former Midtown Manor properties at 811, 815, 785 Piedmont Avenue (now owned by BB&T), and 292 9th Street, remain Eyesores, with no word on improvements. No recent vagrant activity reported at 292 9th Street, but Sgt Cooper arrested several vagrants for trespassing at the Manor locations Friday night.

Transvestite prostitutes may be creeping back into the service area, according to reports from Midtowners. We will review our catalog and prepare new court watch cases.

Street drugs remain abundantly available 24/7 in the block surrounding the Peachtree Pine "shelter" as an added convenience to those using their unconditional no-questions-asked services.

Bedford Pine, with plenty of drug dealers serving the street criminals breaking into our cars and homes, continues to be a live production of [The Wire...](#)

The property of the big check cashing place at the southwest corner of Ponce & Boulevard remains a problem with street junkies loitering, and the owners seem content with the conditions there.

Petty criminals still roam the streets of Midtown scouting for cars and homes to break into and folks to victimize - get your neighbors to join MPSA so we can fund more patrol hours to mitigate this phenomenon. If every member of MPSA brought in a new member, we could hire enough police officers to patrol our streets 90 hours per week instead of 60 hours per week as we do now. (There are 168 hrs in a week) Think what an impact that would have on crime in Midtown!

MAYORAL FORUMS ON PUBLIC SAFETY

Several organizations will host public safety forums for Mayoral candidates, and we encourage everybody to attend at least one of those.

A group of concerned citizens recently formed the **Campaign for Atlanta (CFA)** in order to push for informative, courteous, objective, in-depth and substantive platforms among Mayoral candidates. A number of community organizations including MPSA and [Atlantans Together Against Crime](#) are supporting this non-partisan, non-endorsing effort towards a better platforms among political candidates.

1. On July 18th and 19th, at the Carter Presidential Center, CFA is holding public safety forums to encourage mayoral candidates to start thinking and talking about major challenges to public safety and other issues throughout their fall campaigns.

- **More information at**
<http://www.campaignforatlanta.com/html/Forums.htm>

2. The **Atlanta police and firefighter unions** will jointly host a 2009 Mayoral candidate forum on **Thursday July 23rd at 7pm**. The four top candidates to be Atlanta's next mayor will meet at the **Georgia State University Auditorium** to debate their visions for public safety in Atlanta. Whichever candidate wins election in November will inherit public safety agencies that are poorly equipped to perform their missions to protect life and property in the regional capital of the Southeast.

- ***Click here for more info.***

BE SAFE AND STAY VIGILANT! And remember, your car + your valuables = loot for a thief! If you don't get those things out of your car, a thief will do it for you...

- Your Neighbors at the Midtown Ponce Security Alliance

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