



MEDIA ALERT

For Immediate Release:

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Clergy and Community Members Call for “No Murders” in Meeting with Mayoral Candidates this Saturday to Discuss Comprehensive Plan to End Homicides In the District

DC Councilmember and Mayoral Candidate Muriel Bowser Confirmed

- WHO:** Grounded in the belief that “*One murder in D.C. is one murder too many*” and “*the resources to end murder in D.C. exist in D.C.,*” the **No Murders Project**, along with **local clergy and community members** welcome the opportunity to meet with mayoral candidates running in the April primary election to engage in a meaningful dialogue around the need for a groundbreaking comprehensive action plan that would lead to the elimination of murder in Washington, D.C.
- WHEN:** **Saturday, March 29, 2014, 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.**
- WHERE:** **Allen Chapel AME Church, 2498 Alabama Avenue SE, Washington, D.C. 20020**
- WHAT:** The meeting will include a presentation from the No Murders Project and clergy highlighting the guiding principles of the movement to end murder in Washington and key efforts to date. A brief film by the Tale of the Tape Foundation will also be shown highlighting the human impact of homicides in the city. Candidates who attend will be asked to do the following: 1) Commit to the goal of working to end murder in Washington, D.C. if elected/re-elected Mayor of Washington, D.C. 2) Commit to convene a task force comprised of public and private sector representatives to update [the District of Columbia Comprehensive Homicide Elimination Strategy Task Force 2008 Report](#). 3) Commit to reviewing and implementing with public and private sector participation, on an on-going basis, as many of the recommendations as feasible once the report is issued. The District has seen an encouraging decline in homicides over the last two decades, with last year’s total of 104 homicides one of the lowest numbers recorded in the city in 50 years. The **increase in homicides in 2013 and the increase year-to-date in 2014** is a reminder that the time is now for the District to make a bold step in leading the nation as a major U.S. city that commits itself to the creation and implementation of a ***sustained and comprehensive action-plan and process*** to end murder within the city.

Invited Candidates:

Mayor Vincent Gray
Councilmember Muriel Bowser
Councilmember Jack Evans
Councilmember Tommy Wells

Councilmember Vincent Orange
Carlos Allen
Reta Lewis
Andy Shallal

Voter registration forms will be available at the event for District residents.

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No Murders Project (NMP) is a coalition of concerned individuals representing jurisdictions within the metropolitan region that are committed to working for a *MURDER FREE DMV*. Based on three basic principles: 1) One murder is one murder too many; 2) When a murder happens in the city/jurisdiction, business as usual should stop and the residents should discuss what it would take to prevent a future murder; and 3) The resources to prevent murder in D.C. and the surrounding region exists. NMP is looking to go beyond talk to real action that will prevent all people in the region from being murdered.