

EXECUTIVE ORDER



Subject	Extension of Emergency Juvenile Curfew
Number	EO-26-004
Effective Date	April 23, 2026
Related to:	GO-OPS-305.01 (Interacting with Juveniles)

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

I. PURPOSE

On April 16, 2026, Mayor Bowser issued [Mayor's Order 2026-050 \(Declaration of a Public Emergency and Limited Juvenile Curfew\)](#) to extend the emergency juvenile curfew. The purpose of this executive order is to provide Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) members with procedures for enforcing extended curfew hours as well as the designation, public notification, and enforcement procedures for juvenile curfew zones (JCZs).

II. PROCEDURES

A. General

1. Pursuant to [Mayor's Order 2026-050](#), effective **until 11:59 p.m. on May 1, 2026:**
 - a. The citywide juvenile curfew shall apply to any person under the age of 18 who remains in any public place or on the premises of an establishment within the District during the hours of 11:00 p.m. through 6:00 a.m. on the following day.
 - b. The chief of police may designate extended JCZs from 8:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. Within extended JCZs, persons under 18 are prohibited from gathering **in a group of nine or more** in any public place or on the premises of any establishment within the zone.
2. JCZs and extended juvenile curfew hours apply to juveniles (i.e., persons under the age of 18 years with the exception of individuals who are judicially emancipated or married).
3. Pursuant to [GO-OPS-305.01 \(Interacting with Juveniles\)](#), members are reminded that juveniles are exempt from curfew requirements when:

Curfew Exemptions	
Accompanied by a parent or legal guardian	Involved in an emergency
Engaged in or in transit to lawful employment, without any detour or stop	In a motor vehicle, train, or bus involved in interstate travel
On a sidewalk that abuts the juvenile's or a next-door neighbor's residence, provided the neighbor does not complain to MPD about the juvenile's presence	Attending an official school, religious, or other recreational activity sponsored by the District or other entity that takes responsibility for the juvenile
On an errand at the direction of a parent or legal guardian, without any detour or stop	Exercising First Amendment rights protected by the United States Constitution

4. Pursuant to [GO-PER-201.26 \(Code of Conduct\)](#), members are reminded to maintain a calm, courteous, and professional demeanor when engaging with the community during juvenile curfew enforcement.

B. JCZ Designation and Implementation

1. JCZs are designated areas where the chief of police has determined that temporarily extending juvenile curfew hours in a specific geographical location is appropriate to protect public safety or public or private property. JCZs shall be declared by written order and notification and implemented for no longer than four consecutive days.
2. In determining whether to designate a JCZ, the chief of police shall consider the following:

- a. Within the preceding 30 days, the occurrence of:

JCZ Considerations
(1) Juvenile curfew violations in the proposed JCZ;
(2) Police reports of disturbances of the public peace pursuant to DC Official Code § § 22-1301 , 22-1307 , 22-1309 , 22-1312 , 22-1318 , 22-1321 , or 22-1322 in the proposed JCZ;
(3) Police reports of dangerous crimes as defined in DC Official Code § 23-1331(3) in the proposed JCZ;
(4) Police reports of crimes of violence as defined in DC Official Code § 23-1331(4) in the proposed JCZ; or
(5) Police reports of destruction of or damage to public or private property in the proposed JCZ.

- b. Intelligence or verifiable information indicative of an intent of nine or more juveniles to gather in the proposed JCZ in such a manner that is likely to result in substantial harm to the public safety, or the safety of those gathering, or substantial damage to public or private property; and
- c. Any other verifiable information from which the chief of police may ascertain that public safety or public or private property in the

proposed JCZ is likely to be endangered by the presence of unaccompanied juveniles in the JCZ.

3. To request designation of a JCZ, district commanders shall submit a written request to the chief of police through the chain of command. The written request shall include:

JCZ Requests
a. Detailed street and aerial maps outlining the boundaries of the proposed JCZ;
b. Plan specifying resources used to mark the area as a JCZ; and
c. Complete, objective justification for the determination based on the JCZ considerations included in this order.

4. When recommending designated JCZs, district commanders shall ensure that their district has the necessary personnel, material resources, and logistical capabilities to effectively concentrate law enforcement efforts in these areas.
5. The chief of police, in consultation with the Office of General Counsel (OGC), shall review and approve or disapprove all JCZ designation requests.
 - a. OGC shall ensure that the proposed JCZ meets legal sufficiency with consideration given to the recommendation criteria.
 - b. The chief of police or designee shall ensure that all aspects of the proposed JCZ meet the requirements of this order.
6. To designate the JCZ, the chief of police shall issue an order that includes:

JCZ Recommendation Criteria
a. The basis for the designation of the JCZ;
b. The boundaries of the JCZ; and
c. The days and hours of the extended juvenile curfew hours in the JCZ.

7. Upon approval, the Executive Office of the Chief of Police (EOCOP) shall forward all designated JCZ orders to the Office of Communications director for public notification and the Real Time Crime Center (RTCC) commanding official for notification to affected law enforcement partners. Any disapproved requests shall be returned to the requesting district commander.
8. Upon the designation of a JCZ, the affected district commander shall ensure signs are posted in the immediate area of the JCZ.
9. District commanders shall ensure that each block within the JCZ is marked by multiple signs secured to available objects (e.g., lamp post) or on wooden stakes around the JCZ borders, as soon as practical and prior

to implementation. Each block shall be marked by using the most practical and available resources. Signs shall include:

- a. A statement that during curfew hours, any person under the age of 18 congregating in a group of nine or more juveniles in any public place or on the premises of any establishment within the perimeter of an extended juvenile curfew zone must leave the area unless engaged in certain exempted activities and that failure to do so may result in arrest;
 - b. The boundaries of the JCZ;
 - c. The extended juvenile curfew times and effective dates; and
 - d. Any other information needed to inform the public.
10. At the beginning of each shift, watch commanders shall ensure that block markings and warning signs are still posted.
 11. The chief of police may extend the duration of the JCZ to 30 days by issuing subsequent orders extending the duration of the designation.

C. Enforcement of Extended Juvenile Curfew Hours and JCZs

1. In the event that members discover juveniles violating extended curfew hours and/or JCZs, an official the rank of sergeant or above shall determine when it is necessary to issue dispersal warnings.
2. Members issuing dispersal warnings shall:
 - a. Provide notice of the violation of curfew according to the warning format in the Juvenile Curfew Dispersal Warning Sheet and identify reasonable steps they can take to leave the area.
 - (1) Where there **is not** an imminent danger of bodily injury or significant damage to property, issue **at least two** clearly audible and understandable notices of violation of curfew; or
 - (2) Where there **is** imminent danger of bodily injury or significant damage to property, issue **at least one** clearly audible and understandable notice of violation of curfew;
 - b. Allow a reasonable and adequate time to disperse;
 - c. Capture each component of all notices of violation of curfew on body worn camera (BWC); and
 - d. Absent exigent circumstances, document all warnings using the

Juvenile Curfew Dispersal Warning Sheet which can be found on MPD Online Forms and upload the completed form into the records management system (RMS) report.

3. Any juveniles who fail to come into compliance shall be transported to a Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services (DYRS) curfew center. Prior to being placed in a truancy van, juveniles aged 13 and older shall be searched and handcuffed. Juveniles aged 12 and under shall be searched, transported separately whenever practical, and shall not be handcuffed unless they present a danger to themselves or others. Pursuant to [GO-RAR-901.07 \(Use of Force\)](#), members are reminded to use de-escalation techniques whenever feasible, to use force only when necessary, and to ensure that any force used is proportionate to the situation.
4. Members shall document any curfew stops according to the requirements set forth in [GO-SPT-304.10 \(Field Contacts, Stops, and Protective Pat Downs\)](#). Members shall select "Curfew" for the reason for the stop only if that was the initial reason. When the curfew violation was not the initial reason for the stop, members shall select the original reason that the stop occurred in the stop section of the report.
5. Members encountering any other violations of law shall take appropriate police action.

D. JCZ Documentation

1. Upon expiration of the declared JCZ, district commanders shall ensure that block markings and warning signs are removed and prepare a report to the chief of police through the chain of command within 10 business days of the JCZ expiration. The report shall include:

Post-JCZ After Action Report
a. Location including the exact boundaries;
b. Date and time the location was declared a JCZ;
c. Allocated personnel and resources;
d. Dates and approximate times of distribution of notices within the boundaries of the JCZ;
e. Dates, approximate times, and locations of hanging and removing posters (including approximate number of posters used);
f. Manner in which each block in the JCZ was marked;
g. Total number of JCZ violations;
h. Any significant arrest, events, or unusual incidents which occurred in the JCZ during the declared period of time; and
i. Evaluation of the JCZ enforcement action.

2. The EOCOP shall establish and maintain a JCZ file to retain records related to JCZ activities.

III. DEFINITIONS

When used in this directive, the following terms shall have the meanings designated.

	Term	Definition
1.	Notice of violation of curfew	Verbal warning, authorized by an official, that informs a group of juveniles that they are violating the terms of a curfew, that they may be arrested if they continue to violate the curfew, and identifies reasonable steps that they can take to leave the area to avoid arrest.



Jeffery W. Carroll
Interim Chief of Police