



# Colorado



## LEOs & Survivors

May 11 - 16, 2023 Washington, DC

**Wednesday, May 10th**

Arrival Day for Honor Guard, Motors, & Support Staff (if assisting at Reagan)

**Thursday, May 11th**

Survivors Early Arrival Day, Reagan National Airport, 9 AM to 11 PM

**Friday, May 12th**

Survivors Official Arrival Day, Reagan National Airport, 9 AM to 11 PM

LEU Arrival 1 PM (location TBD), PUT Arrival 2 PM to 4 PM at NLEOM

**Colorado Survivor / LEO Reception, 5 PM to 8 PM, Penn Quarter Sports Tavern**

**Saturday, May 13th**

Tent City, 11 AM to 2 AM, RFK Stadium Lot 8, 2400 East Capitol St SE

**Colorado LEO Group Photo, 7 PM, Indiana Plaza (7th St & Indiana Ave NW)**

35th Candlelight Vigil, 8 PM to 9:30 PM, National Mall (4th - 7th Streets)

**Sunday, May 14th**

Nat'l Honor Guard Competition, 8 AM to 4 PM, West US Capitol at 3rd St SW

Day 1, C.O.P.S. National Police Survivors' Conference, 9 AM to 4 PM

Tent City, 11 AM to 2 AM, RFK Stadium Lot 8, 2400 East Capitol St SE

**Annual Colorado Remembrance Ceremony, 4 PM to 4:30 PM, NLEOM**

29th Annual March & Service, 6 PM to 8 PM, NJ Ave & F St NW to NLEOM

COPS 5th Annual Blue Honor Gala, 7 PM, Washington Hilton 1919 Connecticut Ave NW

**Monday, May 15th**

Tent City, 11 AM to 2 AM, RFK Stadium Lot 8, 2400 East Capitol St SE

Nat'l Peace Officers' Memorial Service, 12 PM to 3 PM, West Front US Capitol

Wreath Laying Ceremony, conclusion of Memorial Service, at NLEOM

Stand Watch For The Fallen, (approximately) 4 PM to Midnight, at NLEOM

**Tuesday, May 16th**

Day 2, C.O.P.S. National Police Survivors' Conference, 9 AM to 4 PM

C.O.P.S. Blue Family BBQ

**First time attending National Police Week? FOX31 / Channel 2 News Anchor Deborah Takahara has produced two television specials detailing NPW Events; click [HERE](#) for NPW 2018 and [HERE](#) for NPW 2019.**

## Daily Itinerary / Events - Thursday May 11th

In 1962, President Kennedy signed a proclamation designating May 15th as “Peace Officers Memorial Day,” and the surrounding week as “Police Week.” A formal memorial service began in 1982 when approximately 120 Survivors and law enforcement officers (LEOs) gathered at Senate Park in Washington, DC.

Three organizations have played pivotal roles in the evolution of today’s National Police Week: Concerns Of Police Survivors, the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund, and the Grand Lodge of the Fraternal Order of Police.

C.O.P.S. was organized in 1984 with 110 individual members. Today, C.O.P.S. membership is 60,000+ survivors (spouses, children, parents, siblings, significant others, and co-workers of officers who have died in the line of duty according to Federal government criteria). C.O.P.S. is governed by a national board of law enforcement survivors.

In 1984 a non-profit, the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund, was founded and began raising money for a national memorial. In October 1991 our National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial (NLEOM) was commemorated.

Among all the gatherings during NPW, the three main events each year are -

- The Candlelight Vigil, every May 13th, on the National Mall (hosted by the NLEOMF);
- The C.O.P.S. National Police Survivors’ Conference, every May 14th & 16th, at the Hilton Alexandria Event Center;
- The National Peace Officers’ Memorial Service, at the US Capitol West Front Lawn, hosted by the Grand Lodge.

The first event of National Police Week therefore is sending off current year (2022) Survivors, from Denver International Airport, and greeting them at Reagan National Airport (to accompany them to baggage claim, and then providing a motorcycle escort to their hotel on both May 11th and May 12th).

**HG Members wishing to welcome current year Survivors at the curb at DIA, and escort them to check-in and their gate, please contact Shannon Brukbacher at [membership.cohga@gmail.com](mailto:membership.cohga@gmail.com) for further information.**



Motor Escort Schedule at Reagan National (DCA) click [HERE](#) and Registration click [HERE](#)

Honor Guard Teams click [HERE](#) for information regarding NPW and the FAQ sheet [HERE](#).

If your Honor Guard has assisted National C.O.P.S. with Survivor Escorts at Reagan in the past, Lisa Garland sent an email to your agency’s HG rep on February 6, 2023. (otherwise you can contact her at [lbgarland2153@gmail.com](mailto:lbgarland2153@gmail.com)).

# Daily Itinerary / Events - Friday May 12th

## Official Arrival Day for Survivors at Reagan National Airport, 9 AM to 11 PM.

Please see the previous page concerning Honor Guard Teams and Motors assisting National C.O.P.S. as Survivors arrive for NPW. **This year the hours have been extended from 7:00 AM to 11:00 PM.**

Note: If current year Survivors from your agency are attending NPW 2023, the information from their C.O.P.S. Registration is passed on to Lisa Garland (e.g., the flight and arrival terminal / gate for HG escorts at Reagan) and Charlie Neal (e.g., for hotel destination reference motor escorts).

## Law Enforcement United (estimated at 1:00 PM) & Police Unity Tour (estimated at 2:00 PM) Arrivals

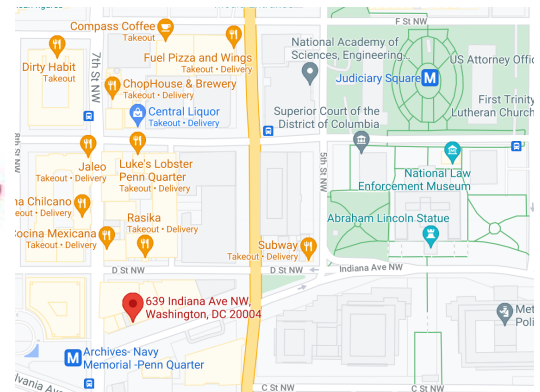
Law Enforcement United (click [HERE](#)) will arrive in Washington, DC (location & Time TBD). LEU raises money for The Road to Hope, Concerns Of Police Survivors, Spirit of Blue Foundation, and the Officer Down Memorial Page.

The Police Unity Tour (click [HERE](#)) will arrive at our National Memorial at approximately 2:00 PM. PUT raises money to maintain and support programs for our National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial & Museum. Colorado PUT members maintain a Facebook page (click [HERE](#)).



## Annual Colorado Law Enforcement Officers / Survivors Reception at Penn Quarter Sports Tavern, 5 PM to 8 PM

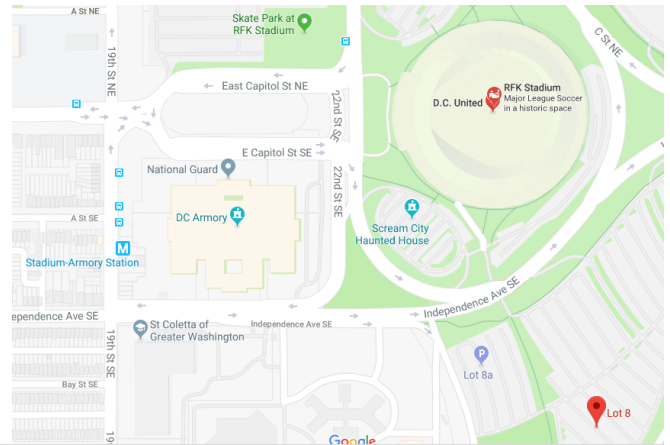
The Colorado Fallen Hero Foundation has hosted a Reception for Colorado LEOs and Survivors to gather, to meet all who are in Washington, DC (from Colorado) for Police Week. The venue (click [HERE](#)) is just a 3 block walk from our National Memorial, across the street from the Navy Archives Metro Station. **If your employee organization (e.g., FOP Lodge) or foundation can contribute to funding this reception, please contact Danny Veith at [dveith@cofallenhero.org](mailto:dveith@cofallenhero.org) for information. PLEASE also RSVP to Danny to assist the venue in planning.**



# Daily Itinerary / Events - Saturday May 13th

**Tent City, 11 AM to 2 AM, RFK Stadium Lot 8, 2400 East Capitol St SE (continues May 14th & 15th)**

Police Week Tent City, hosted by the Fraternal Order of Police, DC Lodge 1, is one of the largest events during National Police Week. For 30+ years, this three-day event has welcomed representatives from agencies throughout the United States and around the world providing a unique opportunity to network within the law enforcement community. Arrive via Metro Rail (Orange, Silver, or Blue line to Stadium-Armory Station), or Rideshare (set your destination as RFK Stadium Lot 8). As of February 2023 their website has yet to be updated.



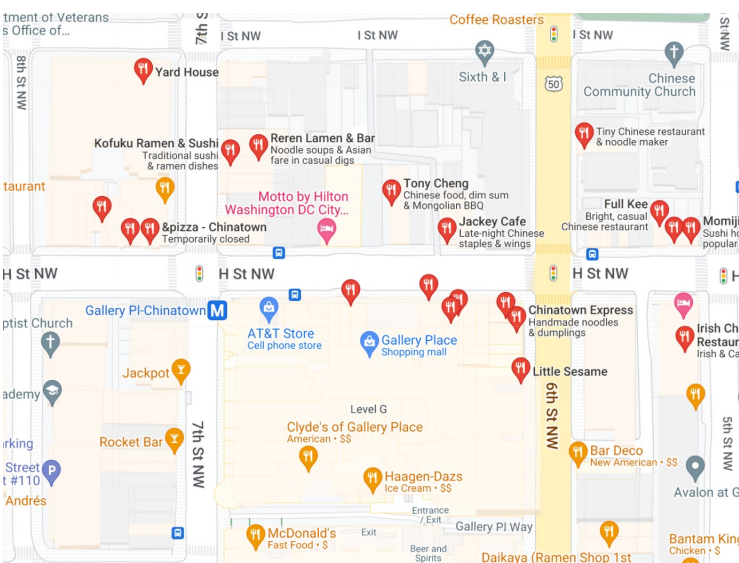
**Pre Candlelight Vigil Dinner (make restaurant reservation for seating between 5 PM and 6 PM)**

In that the Candlelight Vigil does not begin until 8 PM, it's best to have dinner before. If you can, make a reservation now if you want to insure a table for nearby popular restaurants (e.g., the Chophouse, Carmines,...).

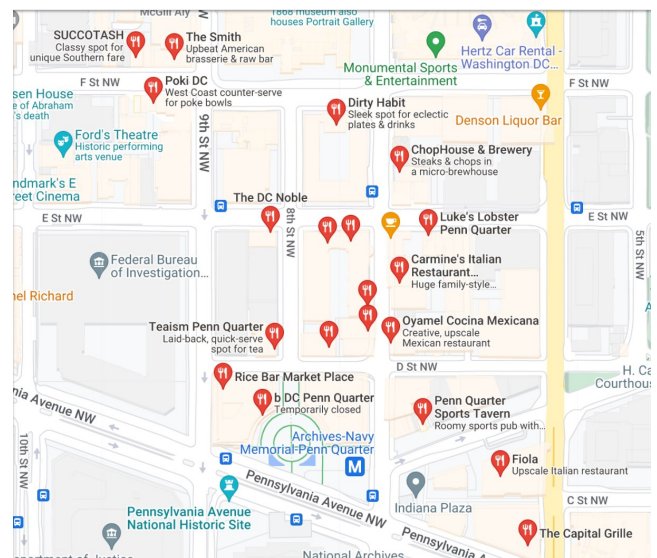
There are restaurants in Chinatown along H Street NW (between 5th & 8th Streets), and Penn Quarter along 7th Street NW (between F & D Streets).

In that an estimated 30,000 people may be attending the Vigil, walking to the National Mall from dinner is hassle free (and you can participate in the group photo along the way).

Sample of Chinatown Restaurants



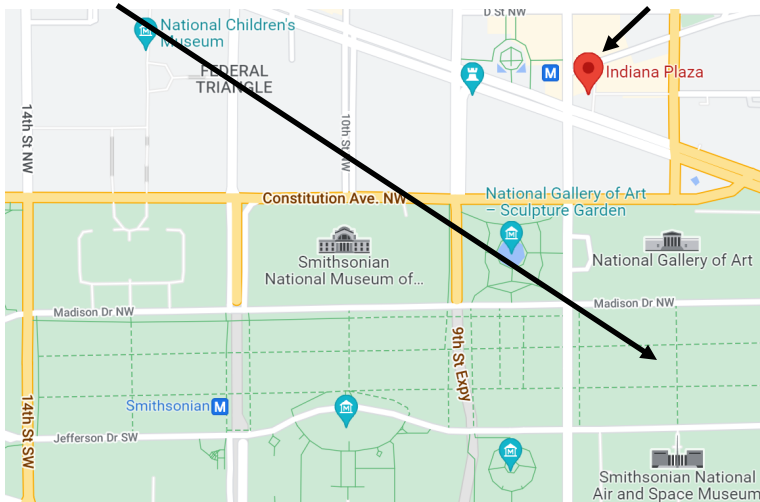
Sample of Penn Quarter Restaurants



## Daily Itinerary / Events - Saturday May 13th (continued)

### Candlelight Vigil

### 7 PM Group Photo



### **Pre Candlelight Vigil Photo at Indiana Plaza 7:00 PM**

At 7 PM we take our Colorado group photo at Indiana Plaza (Indiana Ave NW and 7th St NW), across the street from Penn Quarter Sports Tavern (where our Friday nights' reception took place).

No professional photographer, just an opportunity to use your smartphones to capture all the Colorado officers attending NPW in their dress uniforms.



### **35th Annual Candlelight Vigil, National Mall, 8 PM**

After the group photo, it's an easy walk to the National Mall (where the current year Survivors have been arriving since about 6 PM). The current year Survivors exit their bus and proceed through an Honor Cordon to their reserved seating. The Candlelight Vigil will be held between 4th & 7th Streets / Madison & Jefferson Drives.

Just a thought: When Colorado LEOs stand together, we can come to attention (Order Arms) when our Colorado names are read (at the conclusion of California's Fallen Roll Call).

Not part of the group photo? The closest Metro Stations are the [Smithsonian](#) (Blue, Orange, Silver lines), [L'Enfant](#) (Blue, Green, Orange, Silver, & Yellow lines), and the [Archives-Navy Memorial-Penn Quarter Station](#) (Green, Yellow).

Sunset is at 8:12 PM and the average temperature is 65° F. Check the forecast on this morning for temperature, possible rain, and estimated humidity (as we will be standing).

Potentially 30,000 people in attendance.

## Daily Itinerary / Events - Sunday May 14th

### **Steve Young National Honor Guard Competition and Pipe Band Competition, 8 AM to 4 PM**

The Steve Young National Honor Guard Exhibition & Tribute provides an opportunity for law enforcement organizations to perform ceremonious and patriotic tributes for public viewing. These teams are a highly dedicated group of law enforcement officers that represent organizations from all across this great nation and Canada. They converge on the Nation's Capital every year for National Police Week.

The Honor Guard and Pipeband Exhibition will be located at the U.S. Capitol Building Reflecting Pool (3 blocks south of our Memorial), on the West Side of the Capitol near 3rd Street, SW. Teams will provide a one (1) day event consisting of three segments including Team Inspection, the Color Guard Posting of the Colors and the Exhibition Phase.

The Steve Young National Honor Guard Exhibition & Tribute is named after past national President Steve Young.

The closest Metro Stations are [Judiciary Square](#), [Archives-Navy](#), [Federal Center SW](#), & [Capitol South](#).

Additional information at [www.policeweekhonorguard.com](http://www.policeweekhonorguard.com) (*Note: 1 PM - 4 PM Police Vehicle Display at this location*)

### **Annual Colorado Remembrance Ceremony, 4 PM to 4:30 PM, at our Memorial**

In 2013, the year Denver PD Officer Celena Hollis was added to the National Memorial, 30+ Denver PD Officers gathered with Celena's family for a brief, private wreath laying event. It turned into a cherished memory, an intimate moment among the large crowds that gather for Police Week. Survivors continue to express their gratitude for this brief but personal event which has been held every year since. We will gather on the west side of the reflecting pool, to remember our state's Fallen and, equally important, all of our Colorado Survivors.



## Daily Itinerary / Events - Sunday May 14th (continued)

### 29th Annual Memorial March, 6 PM, New Jersey Ave & F Street NW to our NLEOM along E Street NW

This event is sponsored by the [National Conference of Law Enforcement Emerald Societies](#) featuring law enforcement pipe bands, honor guard / rifle teams, and restored police cars from the past. The march begins at 6 PM, at New Jersey Ave & F Street NW (near [Union Station](#)), and proceeds to our Memorial (where a memorial ceremony with Massed Bands will take place from 7 PM to about 8:15 PM). If your HG / Rifle Team wants to participate, click [HERE](#).

If you are near New Jersey & F Street NW, between 4:30 PM to 6 PM, you are likely to see motor officers (with the night off, free from escorts) and an opportunity to get photos with officers from around the nation, Canada, New Zealand, Great Britain, and other European countries.



### C.O.P.S. 5th Annual Blue Honor Gala, 1919 Connecticut Ave NW, Washington Hilton, 7:00 PM

C.O.P.S. invites you to take part in the 5th Annual Blue Honor Gala on the evening of May 14th. This formal event brings together law enforcement, survivors and peer supporters to honor and celebrate our heroes at the Washington Hilton Hotel.

Blue or black formal/semi-formal attire is expected, as a tribute to our fallen heroes. Dress uniforms are acceptable.

Additional information (tickets must be purchased in advance), click [HERE](#)

C.O.P.S. CORDIALLY INVITES  
SURVIVORS AND SUPPORTERS TO THE  
5TH ANNUAL  
*Blue Honor Gala*

A circular logo for the Blue Honor Gala. It features a shield with a thin blue line and stars, surrounded by the text "C.O.P.S. CONCERNS OF POLICE SURVIVORS EST. 1984" and "BLUE HONOR Gala".

BLUE HONOR  
*Gala*

YOUR PRESENCE IS REQUESTED TO HONOR  
AND CELEBRATE LAW ENFORCEMENT HEROES AT

7:00 PM ON SUNDAY

MAY | 14 | 2023

WASHINGTON HILTON  
1919 CONNECTICUT AVE NW  
WASHINGTON D.C. 20009

\$130/PERSON or \$1,200/TABLE OF 10  
[bit.ly/bluehonorgala2023](https://bit.ly/bluehonorgala2023)

## Daily Itinerary / Events - Monday May 15th

### **42nd Annual National Peace Officers' Memorial Service, 12 PM to 3:30 PM, West Front of US Capitol Building**

Sponsored by the Grand Lodge Fraternal Order of Police and the Grand Lodge Fraternal Order of Police Auxiliary. The Memorial Service will be held on the West Front of the United States Capitol in Washington, D.C. The Service mainly honors the officers who recently made the ultimate sacrifice (calendar year 2022) and pays tribute to all the fallen. The Service begins at 12 noon and is expected to run approximately 3 hours. All law enforcement attending must wear their badge on their outer most garment. Because POTUS (or his designated representative) makes an address, all law enforcement must also have two (2) forms of ID (e.g., your Colo ID), which must include your Department's credential.

To obtain access to seating, contact your local FOP Lodge. Otherwise you may stand behind the seating areas.

Take the Blue Line of the Metrorail to the [Capitol South](#) station and walk 2 blocks north on First Street SE to Independence Avenue, then west and north towards the West Front Lawn of the United States Capitol. Or you can take the Red Line to [Judiciary Square](#) station (at our Memorial) and walk east to 3rd Street, then south on 3rd Street to Constitution Avenue (then west on Constitution towards the West Front Lawn).



Following the National Peace Officers' Memorial Service at the U.S. Capitol, the Grand Lodge Fraternal Order of Police and Grand Lodge Fraternal Order of Police Auxiliary will proceed to the National Law Enforcement Officers' Memorial for the annual Wreath Laying Ceremony.



Following the wreath laying at the Memorial on Sunday, honor guards stand watch for 10-minute intervals to honor and remember the law enforcement officers that made the ultimate sacrifice.

Sponsored by our NLEOM, this "Stand Watch For The Fallen" begins at the conclusion of the Wreath Laying Ceremony and continues until 12 AM (midnight).

If you would like your HG Team to participate, click [HERE](#) to register.

As a reminder, May 15th is the last day of Tent City. This is also the last day of events for law enforcement officers attending National Police Week *unless you are participating as a co-worker at the C.O.P.S. National Police Survivors' Conference*. The following page explains Days 1 & 2 of this conference on May 14th and 16th.





## *Itinerary ref C.O.P.S. Conference May 14th & 16th*



The National Police Survivors' Conference provides surviving family members and co-workers the opportunity to find support and understanding from other survivors, talk with mental health professionals, and attend seminar sessions that will help them and their family address their grief. Conference attendees leave National Police Week with a greater understanding of the grief process and the support available through C.O.P.S. Click [HERE](#) to watch their video.

With the assistance of Colorado's Chapter of Concerns Of Police Survivors, current year (2022) Survivors have been registered to attend Police Week (and have received information concerning the sessions available to them at the Washington Hilton). Current year Survivors are able to attend the conference both May 14th & May 16th from 9 AM to 4 PM as well as the "Blue Family BBQ" on May 16th.

By registering with C.O.P.S. current year (2022) Survivors are also provided transportation from their hotel to the Candlelight Vigil on May 13th, and the Peace Officers Memorial Service on May 15th. Additionally, current year Survivors are provided transportation to their C.O.P.S. hotel from Reagan National Airport (DCA) on May 11th & 12th.



### ***Co-worker (officer) Sessions at Washington Hilton, May 14th & 16th, 9 AM to 4 PM***

On Sunday, May 14th and Tuesday May 16th, Surviving Co-Workers of law enforcement officers who died in the line of duty are encouraged to attend sessions that address coping with survivor guilt, assisting surviving families, how to help your department understand what you are going through, and awareness of post-traumatic stress disorder. **These sessions are open to both past and current year LEO Survivors**, are strictly confidential, and are restricted to active and retired law enforcement officers.

Pre-registration is not necessary for law enforcement officers wanting to attend a Co-Worker's session; simply drop-in at the **Washington Hilton on May 14th** (9 AM to 4 PM) and or **May 16th** (9 AM to 4 PM). Click [HERE](#) for additional information.

Prior to attending National Police Week, that is today, you can register with C.O.P.S. as a Co-Worker Survivor. Complete the PDF Form [HERE](#) or register online [HERE](#). Your registration with C.O.P.S. is strictly confidential.

The [Washington Hilton](#) is located at 1919 Connecticut Ave NW. If you do not use a ride share, the hotel is near the [Dupont Circle Metro Station](#) (Red Line). Dupont Circle is just 4 stops from our Memorial (two stops from the Metro Center Station). It is a 15 minute walk, up Connecticut Ave NW, to the hotel.

If you are an officer who lost a co-worker to a line-of-duty death, you should attend one of these co-worker sessions.

## Flights & Hotel

The first 9 pages of this guide described the itinerary of this busy week. Remember, FOX31 / Channel 2 News Anchor Deborah Takahara produced two television specials detailing NPW; click [HERE](#) for NPW 2018 and [HERE](#) for NPW 2019 for those of you attending this year for the first time. C.O.P.S. has produced an excellent video for NPW 2023 as well, click [HERE](#). The rest of this guide provides information for travelling to and experiencing Washington, DC during NPW.

### ***If you have not already, book your hotel today!***

**PoliceWeek.Org** has information regarding available hotel rooms blocked out for National Police Week (NPW).

Click [HERE](#) for a direct link. Rooms are blocked out for May 10th to May 18th. These hotels show their approximate distance to the National Law Enforcement Memorial. There are a limited amount of rooms blocked out, and they were first posted in January (so the majority of the rooms blocked out may have been booked already).

Not to worry, you can also find a hotel room on your own.

From my years attending National Police Week, I recommend booking a hotel based on its distance to a Metro Station. Upon arriving at Reagan National (DCA), you can take the Metro from the airport to a station that is within walking distance of your hotel. Booking a room at a hotel within walking distance of a Metro Station can eliminate any need to use a taxi, Uber, Lyft,... during NPW.


The Metro is easy to use. In addition to a Metro Rail Station at [Reagan National Airport](#), there are Metro Stations within walking distance of every scheduled NPW event. For instance, our National Law Enforcement Officers' Memorial (NLEOM) has a Metro Station ([Judiciary Square](#)) beneath it. [Gallery Place – Chinatown](#), [Metro Center](#), and [Archives](#) Metro Stations are also within a short walk of our Memorial.

One lean year, I found a cheap hotel (Days Inn by Wyndham Washington DC/Connecticut Avenue, 4400 Connecticut Ave NW) that was less than a block from the Van Ness – UDC Station. This station is just 7 stops to the Metro Center Station (12 minutes), 8 stops to Gallery Place, and 9 stops to our Memorial. As of today, rooms are around \$139 a night for a May 11th to May 16th stay – a great deal for a Washington, DC Hotel. Click [HERE](#)

As you get closer to the Downtown and Penn Quarter / Chinatown Neighborhoods, near where NPW events take place, the hotel prices increase.

With 2023 being a good year for off-duty jobs and access to Marriott Bonvoy points, I am staying at the Washington Marriott at Metro Center, (775 12th St NW). The Metro Center Station is under the hotel. This hotel allows for a short walk to our National Memorial (and going downstairs to the Metro Station provides very short trips to the National Mall, US Capitol, etc). Compared to the Days Inn, however, you are looking at about \$350 a night. Click [HERE](#)

Many agencies buy blocks of rooms here, so don't delay. If you're fortunate to have your agency paying your way, the Federal per diem for Washington, D.C. next May is \$258.

As you look at a Google Map online, a Metro Station is designated with a blue square with a white "M." 

**Look for hotels that are within walking distance of a Metro Station. Click [HERE](#) and this link should provide an example of hotels in relationship to Metro Stations as you zoom in. Click [HERE](#) to get an idea of where our Memorial is located.**

**Beginning on page 19, I have attempted to list every hotel by proximity to a Metro Station**

## Flying into Washington, DC

Survivors, attending NPW, fly into Reagan National (DCA). This allows Honor Guard Teams to greet them as they de-plane, and then escort them to baggage claim and ground transportation. Uniformed motor officers, from around the nation, then provide an escort to their C.O.P.S. Hotel.

Law Enforcement Officers are encouraged to fly into Reagan National (DCA) as well. Both the Blue and Yellow Metro Rail lines have a Metro Station at the airport (allowing you to take the Metrorail to a Metro Station near your hotel). Otherwise you can use a taxi, Uber, Lyft,...

Flying into Dulles (IAD) or Baltimore/Washington International (BWI) are about 45 minute and 60 minute drives into Washington, DC.

**Please provide Danny with your outbound flight itinerary (departure date & time from DIA, Airline / Flight #). This information is shared with Denver Police at DIA, allowing TSA and Airport Operations at DIA to adequately staff for the anticipated amount of LEOs declaring firearms in checked baggage.**

## What to bring...

Hard-sided luggage and gun case, both with locks, for checked baggage (**consider a Apple AirTag for your gun case**).

### Uniform

Your complete, Class A Uniform (e.g., long - sleeved uniform, eight point cap, tie, leather gun belt, black socks & shoes). Chain/lanyard for shrouded badge when not in uniform. Denver PD: Approved dress coat eliminates need for gun belt.

### Clothing

There is a lot to see and do in Washington, D.C., Virginia, and Maryland. The easiest methods are by Metrorail and on foot, so bring comfortable walking shoes. The temperature in mid-May averages 57 to 76 degrees, so something like cargo shorts with plenty of pockets for your camera, cell phone, Metrorail map,...

Washington, D.C. receives more rainfall during the month of May (4 inches) than any other month. A small, compact umbrella is useful.

Most restaurants, bars, and clubs are casual, so a nice pair of jeans and a short-sleeved shirt with a collar are more than acceptable if you are worried about the need to dress up.



Consider downloading the [Capital Bike](#) App, it is very easy to grab a bicycle and ride to your destination.

### Department Memorabilia

Many officers from around the world will offer you a pin, patch, challenge coin,... from their agency. It's nice to have something to give them in return. Many pubs and restaurants will also display patches during NPW.

### Miscellaneous

I have used the same roll of blue paper tape the last several years (to place a tribute on a panel) and different types of graphite pencils (for unique etchings) when visiting our National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial. Not to worry if you don't want to go to the extent I do, Memorial staff always have paper tape and pencils on hand for visitors.

Space in your checked bag to bring home the annual NPW commemorative pint glass from the DC Chop House, t-shirts from the FOP Tent City, items from the official NLEOMF store at the memorial, and other Police Week schwag.

## Taking Your Sidearm to NPW

During trips to NPW, I have never had a problem or delay with my sidearms (nor has luggage ever failed to arrive at Reagan National). Sometimes I bring a second, smaller sidearm for comfortable, concealed carry when not in uniform.

First, I must emphasize the security and efficiency of hard-sided luggage (suitcase) with a lock. When transporting a firearm, in checked baggage, TSA obviously prefers this. You can keep your luggage locked (TSA has a master key).

Your sidearm needs to be unloaded. Ammunition can be carried in the plastic tray / box provided by the manufacturer (Range personnel often retain empty trays & boxes). You can then seal the box in a plastic, zip-lock baggie. Ammunition can also be carried in your magazines if you place electric tape over the exposed round to secure it.

The **unloaded** sidearm is carried in a plastic gun case (such as the manufacturer's case it came with, or a similar case purchased at your local sporting goods store). TSA states *"the firearm must be in a hard-sided container that is locked. A locked container is defined as one that completely secures the firearm from being accessed. Locked cases that can be pulled open with little effort cannot be brought aboard the aircraft."* If you can open the case just enough to slip your hand inside, an employee with the airline (at check-in) or TSA may deny your declaration.

In summary,

- ◆ Consider a padlock that, when closed, forms a tight fit over the handle of the plastic gun case (see below);
- ◆ Loaded magazines, secured in the magazine pouch of your gun belt, are OK (electrical tape over the exposed ends);
- ◆ Loose ammunition can also be stored separately in checked baggage in a manufacturer's tray & box;
- ◆ Everything is placed inside checked baggage (hard-sided luggage) which is locked as well;
- ◆ Never attempt to bring a firearm, knife (blade 2.3" +), ammunition, or other prohibited items in carry-on baggage!



Ammunition is allowed inside the gun case, as long as the handgun is unloaded, but I don't like to cause anxiety with civilian airline employees not familiar with firearms. The lock (in this case a padlock over the handle) has to be snug enough when locked to prohibit a hand from slipping inside the case to access the firearm.

Note: as of January 1, 2008, the DOT prohibits loose lithium batteries in checked luggage (no spare lithium batteries in checked baggage). Prevent your tac light from turning on with electrical tape on the "on-off" switch. Loose batteries are OK for carry-on. **Consider hiding your Apple AirTag behind the padding of your gun case.**



Transportation  
Security  
Administration

Click [Here](#) for TSA's latest rules on firearms and [Here](#) for ammunition.

## Declaring Your Firearm at Check-in with the Airline Employee



**Step 1** - When it's your turn to place your checked baggage on the scale, inform (declare) the customer service representative you have an unloaded handgun. Open your luggage, and then your gun case.

**Step 2** - The airline customer rep at DIA may have you fill out a tag that declares your handgun is unloaded. Place the tag inside your gun case, and then **lock** the gun case. A different airline may want you to tape the tag on the outside of the gun case. Either way, **lock** the gun case, then close and **lock** your suitcase. You will repeat this at Reagan on your way home.

**Step 3** - An airline employee will then take your checked bag to TSA. At DIA, you accompany the airline employee and your luggage. TSA (at DIA) will then screen your checked luggage while you wait outside the rope and stanchion. TSA may ask for your keys to open the luggage and or gun case, but this has yet to occur in my experience. TSA then gives you the thumbs-up, and you are free to go to screening before heading to the terminal / gate.



Note: many officers have told me they fear this process. Remember, your luggage does not have a label on the outside to advertise it contains a firearm on the inside; and you are travelling with the knowledge that both your suitcase and gun case are both locked!

Having said that, after TSA releases me outside the stanchion at DIA, I look the airline employee in the eye and remind them I'm a Denver cop. I then tell them I appreciate their assurance my luggage gets on the plane before giving them a tip. It gives me peace of mind.

Leaving Reagan for home, a stranger in a faraway city, I just remind the employee I am a Denver native and Frontier is my hometown airline... I haven't had a problem with lost or stolen items / luggage in 20 years of attending NPW.



# Once in Wash DC, How to Get Around on the Metro...



You can get to everything during Police Week on the Metrorail.

The Metrorail has six lines, all designated by color. To insure you are travelling in the right direction on the Metrorail, go in the direction of the line's last stop.

As an example, if I want to go to the Gallery Place - Chinatown station from Reagan National, I can take either the Blue (Largo Town Center) Line, or the Yellow (Fort Totten) Line, which ever comes first. If I'm at the Metro Center station, and want to go to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial, I would take the Red (Glenmont) Line and get off at the Judiciary Square station.

In no time you will become familiar with the system. Inside the trains, and on the platforms, are signs with the sequence of stops (so you know you are going in the right direction, and how many stops before you get off).

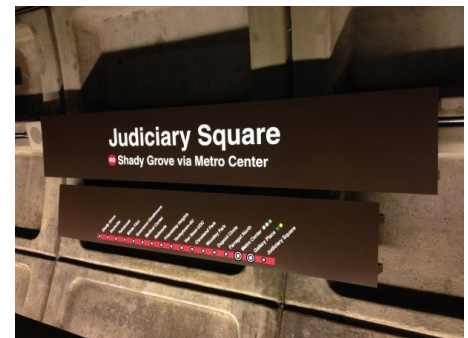
Keep in mind transfer points, like the Metro Center station and Gallery Place station, have two levels (in addition to a need to determine the correct side of the center tracks for your destination).

Finally, each stop has more than one exit to help cut down the walking distance to your destination; arrows will point you in the right direction as you get off at your stop.

For detailed information on the Metrorail, go to their website by clicking [Here](#). For a printable pocket guide, click [Here](#).

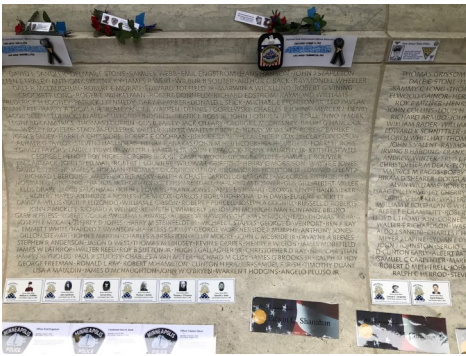
Every business, restaurant, bar, & hotel will advertise or tell you what Metrorail station they are nearest to.

Maybe you'll get lucky and the badge around your neck will allow you to avoid the turnstile at the security kiosk. Otherwise, click [Here](#) on information to purchase your Metro pass from a vending machine at any Station.



# Visiting Our National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial

The [National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial](#) is *our* Memorial in our nation's capital. Our Memorial is unique, because it's a "perpetual memorial." Though not every American has visited Washington, D.C., a majority of our fellow citizens have knowledge of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, perhaps even the National WWII Memorial or Korean War Veterans Memorial. Yet *our* Memorial is perpetual; the names of our fallen officers will be added each year, every year without end, as long as we are a nation. Wars end. The ultimate sacrifices made by our fellow peace officers do not.



Take a moment to learn about our Memorial by clicking [Here](#). Rotating Honor Guard units stand vigil at the center medallion of our Memorial during the evenings following the Candlelight Vigil. Late night visits at our memorial can be very moving; Taps is often sounded, sometimes a "Midnight Piper."

Large reference books are available, at the Memorial, to look up the panel and line for specific names of officers. If you want to research and write down the panel location before the trip, go to the NLEOMF's site [Here](#).

During Police Week, the NLEOMF Visitors Center and Store is relocated across the street (to the east) of the Memorial (look for signs). I am not sure if this will be the case for May 2023, but staff at the Memorial can direct you.

You are invited to obtain etchings and [leave tributes](#) at the Memorial. During NPW, and throughout the year, there is a long-standing tradition of leaving objects at our Memorial. These moving tributes can enhance a personal connection.

If you choose to leave items at the Memorial, please be aware of the following guidelines:

- Use only blue paper tape when affixing an item to the Memorial panels. The marble surface of the Memorial, as well as your items, can be easily damaged if other materials are used. Duct tape, electrical tape, masking tape, gum and bumper stickers should never be adhered to the panels of the Memorial. Blue paper tape can be purchased at most hardware stores. It is also available at the Memorial kiosk (open during the spring and summer months only) or the Visitors Center (400 7th Street, NW).
- Do not leave burning candles at or on the Memorial.
- The National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund takes no responsibility for any object left at the Memorial. Because the site is not patrolled, items may disappear or be damaged by inclement weather. If you wish to retrieve an item left at the Memorial, please affix contact information and a date and time which you intend to retrieve the item.
- All items left at the Memorial are deemed to be the property of the Memorial Fund. Staff may choose to save items and forward them into the National Law Enforcement Museum collection, or may respectfully dispose of the items.
- If you wish to have your item considered for the Museum's collection, please mark the back or bottom of the item with the fallen officer's name and panel section number, and take care to keep it protected from the elements when leaving it at the Memorial. Appropriately sized plastic bags (with zippers) and lamination can be used to prevent water damage to objects and paper.

## Experiencing Washington, D.C.

Our [Law Enforcement Museum](#) has special hours and events during National Police Week. Click [HERE](#) for the current hours, watch for updates on their website.

### National Mall & Memorial Parks

The National Mall & Memorial Parks are open 24-hours a day. With warm nights in May, late night visits at the Lincoln, Jefferson, Martin Luther King Jr., & Franklin Delano Roosevelt memorials, as well as the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial Wall, National World War II Memorial, & Korean War Veteran's Memorial, can be memorable with the unique lighting these venues provide at night (and no school children on a field trip to contend with).

The Smithsonian museums on the Mall (to include the National Museum of American History, Natural History, and National Air and Space Museum), have regular hours (i.e. 1000 to 1730 hours) and admission is free. When carrying concealed, you may be asked to sign in and sign out.

Other locations, such as the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum and the United States Capitol Visitors Center, will not allow you to carry inside their building. The very friendly staff, however, will escort you to a secure room - for law enforcement officers only - to store your firearm in a locker during your visit.

Inside the Rotunda, at the National Archives Museum, one can view the Declaration of Independence, Constitution of the United States, and the Bill of Rights. On prior visits I was able to wear a concealed firearm but, in 2012, was told I could not (and further told lockers were not available). I'm not certain what the policy is for 2023, but don't let any of this discourage you from visiting this amazing museum (click [Here](#) for more information).

As you visit their websites, keep in mind there is always a Metrorail Station nearby...

There are many websites available to help you prepare for getting the most out of your visit. As I have done throughout this guide, I have created hyperlinks; simply hover, Ctrl & click these additional sites here -

[Washington DC Visitor's Guide](#) [Washington DC Travel Guide](#) [National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial](#)

[Washington Post's Going Out Guide](#) [Smithsonian](#) [National Mall](#) [Ford's Theatre](#) [Arlington National Cemetery](#)





## National Police Week Decorum

My most memorable moments involve running into Survivors (spouses, parents, siblings,... of fallen officers) at a local pub. Having spent the entire day at the C.O.P.S. conference, a few have felt the need to “go into town with the boys and let loose a little.” Obviously they are from all over the nation, so getting a chance to ask them about their officer, where he or she worked, what they were like,... has always been meaningful for both of us.

I have also met many cops, from across North America, Europe, and Australia... men & women who I would never have crossed paths with had it not been for a chance meeting over a pint during National Police Week.

How lucky we are to have and share these experiences!

Unfortunately, one night in 2007, I left the Dubliner and was astonished to see what was taking place outside (to get an idea, click [Here](#)). This incident has NOT been repeated since, but was embarrassing for our profession nonetheless.

The point is, National Police Week is a powerful, emotional, and poignant week. It is appropriate to raise a glass to remember our fallen, and to honor the survivors. **Moderation and decorum, however, are essential!**



Having said that, in addition to the FOP Tent City, these are some of the places you will find fellow officers...

[The Dubliner Restaurant](#) - 520 North Capitol St NW - Red Line to [Union Station](#)

The Dubliner is where President Obama once had a pint on St. Patrick's Day. It is a popular destination for officers during NPW and a great place to grab some dinner before partaking next door. Many east coast Emerald Society members occupy the Phoenix Hotel upstairs.

[Kelly's Irish Times](#) - 14 F Street NW - Red Line to [Union Station](#)

Right next door to The Dubliner; wall-to-wall cops during NPW. A frat house / college party atmosphere if you're into that kind of scene.

[Fado Irish Pub](#) - COVID casualty, no longer open

[District Chophouse & Brewery](#) - 509 7th Street NW - Red Line to [Gallery Place - Chinatown](#)

Always a fantastic meal; hopefully a 2023 NPW Copper Ale pint glass (proceeds benefit NLEOMF) will be available.

An Irish Bar in Chinatown, the [Irish Channel Pub](#), 500 H Street NW - Red Line to [Gallery Place - Chinatown](#)

# Checklist for Agency / Organizations

- Email Danny (dveithcofallenhero.org)** if you will be declaring a firearm; Denver PD needs your name, agency, departure date, time, & flight number (from DIA) to assure adequate TSA / DIA Ops staffing.
- Honor Guard Member for Departure:** If you want an Honor Guard Member to represent your agency at Denver International Airport, to escort Survivors curbside to gate, contact Shannon Brukbacher at membership.cohga@gmail.com for further information.
- Survivor Escorts at Reagan National Airport:** If you want an Honor Guard Team to represent your agency at DCA (Reagan National) to escort Survivors from their gate as they deplane, to baggage claim, and then ground transportation, on Thursday May 11th, or Friday May 12th (or both days), contact Sergeant Lisa Garland at LBGarland2153@gmail.com for the TSA application/approval.
- Motor Officers:** If your agency is able to provide Motor Officers to assist escorting Survivors and assist at events during National Police Week, contact Lt Charlie Neal, Arlington County Police, at 703-228-4141 (office) or 301-758-5515 (cell) or chneal@arlingtonva.us
- Honor Guard during NPW:** Please encourage your team to help out at the Candlelight Vigil (click [HERE](#)) and the Memorial Service (click [HERE](#)) or email Ken Roskek roskek@aol.com
- Designate a Point-of-Contact for your group:** In years past, the most common complaint is lack of communication regarding attendance / what to wear at events. Designate a point-of-contact for your group to send out a daily group text or email with: **information concerning the day's optional events, information on mandatory attendance events, times, what to wear (Class A Uniform, 5-11s/ Polo,...), and rally / muster points.**

This point-of-contact can reach Danny during the week at 720-373-6512 with questions.

# Checklist for Officers

- Email Danny (dveithcofallenhero.org)** with your name, agency, DIA departure date, time, & flight (to insure TSA & Airport Operations have adequate staff to streamline your check-in and departure).
- Email Danny (dveithcofallenhero.org)** with your RSVP to the Colorado Reception May 12th at 1700.
- Hard Sided Luggage** (with locks) for your Class A Uniform (long-sleeved shirt, tie, leather belt, hat,...) and sidearm (in a separate, hard sided gun case that, when locked, makes the firearm inaccessible).
- Carry On Bag** for clothing (check the 10-day forecast for Washington, DC) and Police Week schwag you will be bringing back. **Our Goal is No Carry On Violations!**
- Tributes** you may want to leave at the Memorial; department patches, challenge coins, or other mementos to trade.
- Badge, Lanyard, Credentials** for riding on the Metro (potential to bypass turnstiles at kiosks?), and getting into the seating area during the Memorial Service (as POTUS security protocols are in effect).

# Washington, D.C. Hotels in relation to Metro Stations

## **Gallery Place – Chinatown Metro Station**

- [Motto by Hilton Washington DC City Center](#), 627 H St NW, Washington, DC 20001
- [Fairfield Inn & Suites by Marriott Washington](#), DC/Downtown, 500 H St NW, Washington, DC 20001
- [Hampton Inn Washington-Downtown-Convention Center](#), 901 6th St NW, Washington, DC 20001
- [Kimpton Hotel Monaco Washington DC, 700 F St NW](#), Washington, DC 20004
- [Renaissance Washington, DC Downtown Hotel](#), 999 9th St NW, Washington, DC 20001
- [Conrad Washington DC, 950 New York Ave NW](#), Washington, DC 20001
- [Embassy Suites by Hilton Washington DC Convention Center](#), 900 10th St NW, Washington, DC 20001
- [Moxy Washington, DC Downtown](#), 1011 K St NW, Washington, DC 20001
- [Marriott Marquis Washington, DC](#), 901 Massachusetts Ave NW, Washington, DC 20001

## **Metro Center Metro Station**

- [Grand Hyatt Washington](#), 1000 H St NW, Washington, DC 20001
- [Washington Marriott at Metro Center](#), 775 12th St NW, Washington, DC 20005
- [Hotel Harrington](#), 436 11th St NW, Washington, DC 20004
- [JW Marriott Washington, DC](#), 1331 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20004
- [InterContinental the Willard Washington D.C.](#), an IHG Hotel, 1401 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20004
- [W Washington D.C.](#), 515 15th St NW, Washington, DC 20004

## **Mount Vernon Square Metro Station**

- [Courtyard by Marriott Washington Downtown/Convention Center](#), 901 L St NW, Washington, DC 20001
- [Homewood Suites by Hilton Washington DC Convention Center](#), 465 New York Ave NW, Washington, DC 20001
- [Cambria Hotel Washington](#), D.C. Convention Center, 899 O St NW, Washington, DC 20001

# Washington, D.C. Hotels in relation to Metro Stations

## **Farragut North / Farragut West / McPherson Square Stations**

[Sofitel Washington DC Lafayette Square](#), 806 15th St NW, Washington, DC 20005

[Hilton Garden Inn Washington DC Downtown](#), 815 14th St NW, Washington, DC 20005

[Hampton Inn Washington, D.C./White House](#), 1729 H St NW, Washington, DC 20006

[Club Quarters Hotel, Washington DC, White House](#), 839 17th St NW, Washington, DC 20006

[Hampton Inn Washington, D.C./White House](#), 1729 H St NW, Washington, DC 20006

[Hyatt Place Washington DC/White House](#), 1522 K St NW, Washington, DC 20005

[Eaton DC, 1201 K St NW](#), Washington, DC 20005

[Hamilton Hotel Washington DC](#), 1001 14th St NW, Washington, DC 20005

[The Capital Hilton, 1001 16th St NW](#), Washington, DC 20036

[The Mayflower Hotel, Autograph Collection](#), 1127 Connecticut Ave NW, Washington, DC 20036

[Architect Hotel](#), 1015 15th St NW, Washington, DC 20005

[Residence Inn by Marriott Washington, DC Downtown](#), 1199 Vermont Ave NW, Washington, DC 20005

[Hotel Zena](#), 1155 14th St NW, Washington, DC 20005

[The Westin Washington, D.C. City Center](#), 1400 M St NW, Washington, DC 20005

[The Madison Washington DC](#), a Hilton Hotel, 1177 15th St NW, Washington, DC 20005

[Comfort Inn Downtown Dc/Convention Center](#), 1201 13th St NW, Washington, DC 20005

[Washington Plaza Hotel](#), 10 Thomas Cir NW, Washington, DC 20005

[Homewood Suites by Hilton Washington, D.C. Downtown](#), 1475 Massachusetts Ave NW, Washington, DC 20005

[Canopy by Hilton Washington DC Embassy Row](#), 1600 Rhode Island Ave NW, Washington, DC 20036 [Foggy Bottom Metro Station](#)

[Residence Inn by Marriott Washington, DC/Foggy Bottom](#), 801 New Hampshire Ave NW, Washington, DC 20037

[ARC THE. HOTEL Washington D.C.](#), 824 New Hampshire Ave NW, Washington, DC 20037

[The River Inn](#), 924 25th St NW, Washington, DC 20037

[Hotel Lombardy](#), 2019 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20006

[Hotel Hive](#), 2224 F St NW, Washington, DC 20037

[State Plaza Hotel](#), 2117 E St NW, Washington, DC 20037

[Courtyard by Marriott Washington, DC/Foggy Bottom](#), 515 20th St NW, Washington, DC 20006

# Washington, D.C. Hotels in relation to Metro Stations

## Foggy Bottom / Dupont Circle Metro Stations

[West End Washington DC, Tapestry Collection by Hilton](#), 1121 New Hampshire Ave NW, Washington, DC 20037

[The Westin Georgetown, Washington D.C.](#), 2350 M St NW, Washington, DC 20037

[The Ritz-Carlton, Washington, D.C.](#), 1150 22nd St NW, Washington, DC 20037

[Fairmont Washington D.C. Georgetown](#), 2401 M St NW, Washington, DC 20037

[Park Hyatt Washington D.C.](#), 1201 24th St NW, Washington, DC 20037

[Hilton Garden Inn Washington DC/Georgetown Area](#), 2201 M St NW, Washington, DC 20037

[Hyatt Place Washington Dc/Georgetown/West End](#), 2121 M St NW, Washington, DC 20037

[The St. Gregory Hotel Dupont Circle](#), 2033 M St NW, Washington, DC 20036

[Washington Marriott Georgetown](#), 1221 22nd St NW, Washington, DC 20037

[Embassy Suites by Hilton Washington DC Georgetown](#), 1250 22nd St NW, Washington, DC 20037

[Hotel Madera](#), 1310 New Hampshire Ave NW, Washington, DC 20036

[Residence Inn by Marriott Washington, DC/Dupont Circle](#), 2120 P St NW, Washington, DC 20037

[Royal Sonesta Washington DC](#), 2121 P St NW, Washington, DC 20037

[Oakwood Suites & Studios Dupont Circle Washington DC](#), 15 Dupont Cir NW, Washington, DC 20036

[The Dupont Circle Hotel](#), 1500 New Hampshire Ave NW, Washington, DC 20036

[The Ven at Embassy Row, Washington, D.C., a Tribute Portfolio Hotel](#), 2015 Massachusetts Ave NW, Washington, DC 20036

**Washington Hilton**, 1919 Connecticut Ave NW

**C.O.P.S. Hotel and Host Hotel**

**Generator Washington Hilton**, 1900 Connecticut Ave NW

**C.O.P.S. Hotel**

**The Churchill Hotel**, 1914 Connecticut Ave NW

**C.O.P.S. Hotel**

[The Normandy Hotel](#), 2118 Wyoming Ave NW Washington, DC 20036

[American Guest House](#), 2005 Columbia Rd NW Washington, DC 20036

[Sojourn at DuPont PJ](#), 1905 19th St Washington, DC 20036

[Lyle Washington DC](#), 1731 New Hampshire Ave NW Washington, DC 20036

[Sonder at FOUND Dupont Circle](#), 1627 16th St NW Washington, DC 20036

[Kimpton Banneker Hotel](#), 1315 16th St NW Washington, DC 20036

[The Baron Hotel](#), 1523 22nd St NW Washington, DC 20036

[The Mansion On O & O Street Museum](#), 2020 O St NW Washington, DC 20036

# Washington, D.C. Hotels in relation to Metro Stations

## **Union Station Metro Station**

[Hyatt Regency Washington On Capitol Hill](#), 400 New Jersey Ave NW, Washington, DC 20001

[YOTEL Washington DC](#), 415 New Jersey Ave NW, Washington, DC 20001

[Kimpton George Hotel](#), 15 E St NW, Washington, DC 20001

[Hilton Washington DC Capitol Hill](#), 525 New Jersey Ave NW, Washington, DC 20001

[Hilton Washington DC Capitol Hill](#), 525 New Jersey Ave NW, Washington, DC 20001

[Phoenix Park Hotel](#), 520 North Capitol St NW, Washington, DC 20001

## **Capitol South Metro Station**

[Capitol Hill Hotel](#), 200 C St SE, Washington, DC 20003

## **Navy Yard – Ballpark Metro Station**

[Courtyard by Marriott Washington Capitol Hill/Navy Yard](#), 140 L St SE, Washington, DC 20003

[Homewood Suites by Hilton Washington DC Capitol-Navy Yard](#), 50 M St SE, Washington, DC 20003

[Residence Inn by Marriott Washington Capitol Hill/Navy Yard](#), 1233 First St SE, Washington, DC 20003

[Hampton Inn & Suites Washington DC-Navy Yard](#), 1265 First St SE, Washington, DC 20003

[Thompson Washington D.C.](#), 221 Tingey St SE, Washington, DC 20003

## **Crystal City Metro Station**

[Crowne Plaza Crystal City-Washington, D.C., an IHG Hotel](#), 1480 Crystal Dr, Arlington, VA 22202

[Crystal Gateway Marriott](#), 1700 S Eads St, Arlington, VA 22202

[The Westin Crystal City Reagan National Airport](#), 1800 Richmond Hwy, Arlington, VA 22202

[Crystal City Marriott at Reagan National Airport](#), 1999 Richmond Hwy, Arlington, VA 22202

[Hampton Inn & Suites Reagan National Airport](#), 2000 Richmond Hwy, Arlington, VA 22202

[Hilton Garden Inn Reagan National Airport](#), 2020 Richmond Hwy, Arlington, VA 22202

[Hilton Crystal City at Washington Reagan National Airport](#), 2399 Richmond Hwy, Arlington, VA 22202

## **Van Ness – UDC Metro Station**

[Days Inn by Wyndham Washington DC/Connecticut Avenue](#) 4400 Connecticut Ave NW, Washington DC 20008

# *Washington, D.C. Hotels in relation to Metro Stations*

## **NoMa-Gallaudet Metro Station**

[Courtyard by Marriott Washington, DC/U.S. Capitol](#), 1325 2nd St NE, Washington, DC 20002

[Hyatt Place Washington Dc/Us Capitol](#), 33 New York Ave NE, Washington, DC 20002

[Hilton Garden Inn Washington DC/U.S. Capitol](#), 1225 First St NE, Washington, DC 20002