

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUANCE SYSTEM

Mayor's Order 2025-115

November 1, 2025

SUBJECT: Declaration of a Public Emergency and Limited Juvenile Curfew

ORIGINATING AGENCY: Office of the Mayor

By virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the District of Columbia pursuant to section 422 of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December 24, 1973, Pub. L. 93-198, 87 Stat. 790, D.C. Official Code § 1-204.22; section 5 of the District of Columbia Public Emergency Act of 1980, effective March 5, 1981, D.C. Law 3-149, D.C. Official Code § 7-2304; Commissioner Regulation 68-12, Article 48 of Police Regulations; 1968 D.C. Stat. Reg. 27, effective June 19, 1968; and 24 DCMR §§ 2200 - 2203, it is hereby **ORDERED** that:

I. BACKGROUND, FINDINGS, AND DECLARATION

1. Pursuant to the Juvenile Curfew Act of 1995, effective September 20, 1995, D.C. Law 11-48, D.C. Official Code §§ 2-1541 *et seq.*, the District of Columbia provides for a curfew for juveniles under the age of 17 beginning at 11:00 p.m. on weekdays and midnight on the weekends, except in July and August, when curfew begins at midnight.
2. On July 7, 2025, the Council of the District of Columbia enacted emergency legislation introduced by Mayor Muriel Bowser, the Juvenile Curfew Emergency Amendment Act of 2025 (D.C. Act 26-104), that temporarily extended the citywide curfew's applicability to 17-year-olds and to weekend nights. The extended curfew was successful in reducing fights, violence, and vandalism by juveniles and youth.
3. The emergency legislation expired on October 5, 2025. Since its expiration, the District has seen an immediate increase in disorderly conduct and youth violence. For example, on October 13, a group that grew to more than 100 youth travelled from Navy Yard to Union Station, and then to Shady Grove. At one point, when they were running in and out of traffic, a 14-year-old youth was struck by a vehicle, sustaining minor injuries. At the same time, approximately 70 juveniles rampaged through the Gallery Place movie theater, destroying property, and stealing approximately \$200 of merchandise. One juvenile assaulted an employee by striking them in the head with a water bottle. All of this violence and disorder happened in less than 10 minutes.
4. On October 19, a group of more than 100 youth broke out in multiple fights. Metropolitan Police Department officers had to deploy oleoresin spray during two

of the brawls to gain control and stop the violence. A 13-year-old was arrested and charged with simple assault.

5. The weekend of October 24-26, flyers circulated on social media for two “Teen Takeovers” in the U Street corridor and the Navy Yard/Wharf neighborhood, telling youth to bring their own alcohol and marijuana. The “takeovers” were advertised as starting in the early evening and youth showed up by the dozens. In the U Street area, the gathering turned violent, with the groups being disorderly in the street and surrounding and damaging two vehicles, breaking the window of one car. In both incidents, the drivers got out of the cars and were assaulted by the juveniles; one driver was transported to the hospital and several juveniles stole the driver’s vehicle and crashed it into a tree.
6. On October 31, hundreds of teenagers, many from outside the District, descended upon the Navy Yard neighborhood and once again engaged in violence and disorderly conduct. Some began brawling, blocking streets, and moving into commercial establishments in large groups, endangering both themselves and others in the area. Six youth were arrested by the Metropolitan Police Department and one police officer suffered minor injuries.
7. While the Juvenile Curfew Emergency Amendment Act of 2025 was in effect, the Chief of Police successfully identified a limited number of zones where, in her professional experience, youth were likely to gather in significant numbers and behave dangerously. To protect the safety of juveniles, residents, and the general public, the Chief of Police needs the authority to declare special juvenile curfew zones to prevent recurrence of violence and dangerous behavior by large groups of juveniles.
8. Although the Metropolitan Police Department has used various methods to address this conduct, including enhanced enforcement of the disturbance of the peace offenses, working with local businesses on signage related to trespassing by unaccompanied minors, and requests for a restricted curfew in the Wharf, the tools available are limited. The District needs flexibility in its juvenile curfew to allow the Chief of Police to ensure the safety of both juveniles and the public to more nimbly address significant safety concerns.
9. To protect the public peace and preserve the safety and welfare of persons and property in the District, it is necessary to exercise my authority to declare a public emergency, impose earlier hours on the juvenile curfew, extend the juvenile curfew to 17-year olds, and implement various emergency measures.

II. JUVENILE CURFEW EXTENDED

1. The District’s curfew law is hereby ordered extended on an emergency basis, as to its applicability on the age of youth, the hours, and the locations where it can be declared.

2. All juveniles under the age of 18 years are subject to curfew that begins at 11:00 p.m. on November 1, 2025, until 6:00 a.m., and every night thereafter, ending on Wednesday, November 5, 2025 at 11:59 p.m., with the same responsibilities and excepted activities as provided for in the Juvenile Curfew Act of 1995.
3. The Chief of Police is authorized to:
 - a. Designate special zones that she determines to be at high risk for disorderly conduct by youths and is empowered to establish earlier curfew times for those zones, for youths under 18 years old, beginning at 6 p.m; and
 - b. To declare a temporary curfew zone upon her finding that a group of at least eight youth is imminently scheduled to gather, or has gathered, and the safety of the youth, residents, or the public is endangered.
4. Pursuant to the Juvenile Curfew Act of 1995:
 - a. The parent or guardian of a minor commits a violation of this Order if he or she knowingly permits, or by insufficient control allows the minor to remain in a public place or on the premises of any establishment within the District during curfew hours; and
 - b. The owner, operator, or employee of an establishment commits an offense if he or she knowingly allows a minor to remain upon the premises of the establishment during curfew hours.
 - c. All such violations shall be referred to the United States Attorney for the District of Columbia, the Office of the Attorney General, and applicable District Government agencies for investigation as potential endangerment of youth by their parent or guardian. Additionally, any establishment violating this Order will be referred to the Department of Licensing and Consumer Protection for investigation on suspension of its business license(s).

III. INVOCATION OF OTHER EMERGENCY POWERS

1. The City Administrator, in consultation with the directors of any subordinate agencies, is authorized to implement any measures as may be necessary or appropriate to protect persons and property in the District from the effects of the present emergency, and to prevent violations of the curfew. Such measures may include:
 - d. Expansion of the program to remit youths in violation of the curfew to the custody of the Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services;
 - e. Expansion of evening programming for youths at Department of Parks and

Recreation Facilities;

- f. Requesting grantees of violence interrupter grants to direct efforts towards youth, to guide them home or to healthy and constructive activities;
 - g. Granting exemptions from budget restrictions on overtime or hiring for persons involved in enforcing the curfew; and
 - h. Requesting the Metropolitan Police Department to more robustly enforce criminal and juvenile code violations relating to incommoding persons and obstructing public spaces, noise violations, disorderly conduct, public consumption of alcohol or marijuana, operation of all-terrain vehicles, and dirt bikes on public space, operation of e-bikes and scooters on sidewalks where prohibited, public urination, defacing public or private property, as well as more serious crimes involving assault, weapons, and robbery.
2. Notwithstanding the District of Columbia Procurement Practices Reform Act of 2010, as amended, D.C. Official Code §§ 2-351.01 *et seq.*, or any other law governing contracts, grants, or partnerships or the incurring of obligations, the Chief Financial Officer of the District of Columbia is authorized to approve disbursement of all appropriations necessary to carry out this Order.

IV. ENFORCEMENT

Any person who violates the curfew imposed by this Order may be subject, for each violation, to a criminal fine of up to three-hundred dollars (\$300) or to imprisonment for not more than ten (10) days pursuant to D.C. Official Code §7-2307 and 24 DCMR § 2203.4, in addition to any other penalties or administrative remedies available by law.

V. DURATION

1. The emergency declared by this Order shall be in effect for five (5) calendar days, until 11:59 p.m. on November 5, 2025, unless rescinded by Mayor's Order or extended by the Council of the District of Columbia.
2. The expanded hours and applicable ages of the juvenile curfew declared by this Order shall be in effect for the same time as this Order unless rescinded by Mayor's Order or extended by the Council of the District of Columbia.
3. The powers accorded by this Order to the Chief of Police to declare special juvenile curfew zones, over and above any powers already authorized by law, shall expire at the same time as the emergency.

VI. EFFECTIVE DATE: This Order shall become effective immediately.


MURIEL BOWSER
MAYOR

ATTEST: 
KIMBERLY A. BASSETT
SECRETARY OF STATE OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA