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COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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**CHAIRMAN MENDELSON STATEMENT ON RESIGNATION OF
DC POLICE CHIEF CATHY LANIER**

WASHINGTON, DC – DC Council Chairman Phil Mendelson was disappointed to hear of the resignation of Metropolitan Police Department Chief Cathy Lanier, after 26 years with the department.

“Like everyone else, I was surprised to learn that Cathy Lanier is resigning. She's done a great job for the last ten years as our Chief of Police,” Mendelson stated.

Under Chief Lanier’s leadership, MPD has set a national standard when it comes to community policing best practice. “Not too long ago, our police force was a mess. Charles Ramsey made important strides in improving the force,” Mendelson pointed out. “Cathy Lanier, however, took those gains and built upon them. I'm a strong believer in the value of stability, and for almost a decade Chief Lanier was our stable hand. We can see how this has benefited us since 2006: The crime rate is down, our police force is better trained, and issues with use of force have been significantly reduced.”

“Still, challenges remain, they are not easy, and are exacerbated now with the need to find a successor,” Mendelson added. “The Council stands ready to work with Mayor Bowser to find the best candidate to succeed Cathy Lanier.”

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