DC Safe Surrender 2016

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PRESS ADVISORY

People with DC Warrants Have Opportunity to Surrender 3 Saturdays in September

"This could be your first step toward a second chance"

WHAT: DC Safe Surrender 2016

WHERE: Moultrie Courthouse - 500 Indiana Ave, NW

WHEN: Saturdays, September 10, 17 and 24 from 9 am-4 pm

The DC Safe Surrender Program is an opportunity for persons who are wanted for non-violent felonies or misdemeanors in the District of Columbia to surrender voluntarily at the Moultrie Courthouse. DC Safe Surrender recognizes that many persons are looking for a way to resolve their outstanding warrants; the program assures individuals who surrender that they will be treated fairly and with dignity.

Upon arrival at the courthouse, participants will be identified by Safe Surrender staff. If participants do not have an active warrant, they will be free to go. If they do have an active warrant, an attorney will be appointed to represent them, a hearing will be held, and the warrant will be quashed.

DC Safe Surrender's goal is to reduce the number of outstanding bench warrants by allowing people to surrender in a safe and secure environment. The program provides persons with a way to turn themselves in, without the risk of being arrested at home, in front of their family and children, at work, or during a routine traffic stop. At the previous Safe Surrender events, the overwhelming majority of the people who surrendered *returned home that same day*.

For more information, please visit <u>www.dccourts.gov/safesurrender</u>. A list of all those with outstanding warrants can be found on that page ('Active Warrant List').

Safe Surrender is a partnership between: the Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency (CSOSA), Criminal Justice Coordinating Council, DC Pretrial Services Agency, DC Public Defender Service, DC Superior Court, Deputy Mayor's Office for Public Safety and Justice, Metropolitan Police Department, Office of Attorney General, US Attorney's Office for DC, US Marshals Service – Superior Court, and US Parole Commission.