DEPARTMENT OF POLICE

Isiah Leggett
County Executive

J. Thomas Manger
Chief of Police

International Municipal Lawyers Association
2013 Mid-Year Seminar
April 14-16, 2013
Washington, D.C.

The D.C. Sniper case – Media relations

Chief of Police J. Thomas Manger
Montgomery County [MD] Police Department
MCPDChief@montgomerycountymd.gov
240-773-5005

Just a year after the September 11th attacks, another form of terrorism struck the Washington D.C. area. For 23 days, the D.C. Sniper case put millions of people in fear, and caused them to change their daily routines. From October 2, 2002, through October 24, 2002, 14 people were shot by two men, killing 10 of them. The shootings involved 8 local jurisdictions. The investigation involved hundreds of detectives and dozens of local, state and Federal law enforcement agencies.

Few crimes have ever received the amount of media overage that the D.C. sniper case received. The coordination of the public-information aspects of this case was extraordinary. With the nature of 24-hour news coverage today, there are many lessons to be learned from this case.

# # #

"©2013 International Municipal Lawyers Association. This is an informational and educational report distributed by the International Municipal Lawyers Association during its 2013 Mid-Year Seminar, held April 14-16, 2013, in Washington, DC. IMLA assumes no responsibility for the policies or positions presented in the report or for the presentation of its contents."