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Ellen Rockower/Hatchet photographer

Metropolitan Police investigate an apparent suicide where an individual appeared to jump from the South side of the Allen Lee Hotel onto Virginia Avenue between 23rd and 22nd streets.

Man jumps from local hotel, MPD investigates

An individual jumped from the Allen Lee Hotel on F Street in an apparent suicide Wednesday afternoon. Metropolitan Police officials said they are investigating the incident, in which an "older-looking" male jumped to his death around 3:30 p.m.

Police taped off the Virginia Avenue side of the 2224 F St. hotel between 23rd and 22nd streets following the incident. Four patrol cars, a fire engine and an ambulance responded to the scene and wrapped the individual in a yellow body bag.

A window was open on the Virginia Avenue side of the building, but officials said they were still determining whether the individual jumped

from the window or the roof.

MPD Lt. David Hutchinson said the incident appeared to be a suicide, but said police were still investigating and had yet to contact the next of kin.

Hotel Manager Dennis Hollier said that by 5:30 p.m. he had not determined whether the man was a patron of the hotel, but noted, "if it is who we think it is, he has been here for a few days."

Hollier said a stairwell leading to a fire exit on the roof is accessible to patrons but does not activate an alarm.

Witnesses said they initially saw blood around the victim before city officials cleared the scene.

—Moshesh Oinounou

Police arrest UPD officer

■ Three-year UPD veteran faces armed robbery charges

by Michael Barnett
Hatchet Reporter

University Police said hiring policies will not change after a UPD officer was arrested for armed robbery this month. Terease Gooden, a three-year veteran of UPD, was arrested Nov. 4 by Prince George's County Police and charged with two counts of armed robbery.

University spokesman Bob Ludwig said Gooden's employment was terminated Nov. 15 after Gooden lost her D.C. police commission.

Court documents report Gooden and one man, driving a Dodge Neon, approached several individuals on Sept. 21 and asked if they were selling cocaine. When the individuals said no, Gooden

revealed a "silver badge" attached to her belt.

According to a criminal warrant obtained from Prince George's County (Md.) District Court, Gooden said, "If you move, I'll be forced to pull my gun" after she ordered victims and witnesses to the ground.

Gooden then handcuffed one victim, took \$100 from his wallet and returned the wallet. The male driver then placed his knee on the back of another victim and took \$300 from his wallet. Both individuals returned to the car and fled the scene.

Police connected Gooden with the robbery after discovering a previous robbery in which a black female suspect emerging from a Dodge Neon also showed a silver badge on her belt and identified herself as a police officer. The Dodge Neon was registered and owned by Gooden. Two victims

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ROTC, GW policies differ

■ ROTC recruiting policy breaks GW anti-discrimination rules

by Andrew Novak
Editorial Assistant

Although GW's anti-discrimination policy prohibits bias based on sexual orientation "in any University-recognized area of student life," a federal law against homosexual conduct in the armed services gives the Reserve Officer Training Corps an exemption from the rule.

Universities that interfere with ROTC recruiting regulations upholding the military's "Don't ask, don't tell, don't pursue, don't harass" policy concerning homosexuality are at risk of losing some or all of their federal financial aid, according to the 1997 Solomon-Pombo Act.

While University President Stephen Joel Trachtenberg acknowledged the contradiction between University and ROTC policies, he said federal law takes precedence over GW policies and that University interference with ROTC regulations would result in a loss of major federal funding.

"We are part of a larger society and we have to observe the laws.

We can't pick and choose which laws we want to follow," Trachtenberg said.

Last week GW student organizations Out Crowd, Feminist Majority Leadership Alliance and the law school's Lambda Law held a panel to examine gays in the military and the "don't ask, don't tell" policy.

Panelists included GW alumnus Patrick Moloughney, who said he was discharged from GW's Naval ROTC after acknowledging his homosexuality. Christopher Neff, a Legal Defense Network Policy Associate who works on behalf of gays expelled from the military, and Alastair Gamble, an Arabic linguist who was expelled from the military because of his sexual orientation, also took part in the panel.

Homosexuality and the military

The military banned homosexuals from service in 1945, until Congress changed the law in 1993 to only ban homosexual conduct. The "don't ask, don't tell" policy is defined as "an admission of homosexuality, the solicitation of another to engage ... the commission of a homosexual act or a homosexual marriage or attempted marriage," according to the Department of Defense Web site.

In response to universities'

interference with the ROTC policy, Congress passed the 1997 Solomon-Pombo Act, denying federal funding to any university that interferes with military recruiting on campuses.

If a college takes "millions of dollars of government money, the government ought to have that right" to recruit without interference, said Doug Heye, a spokesman for Congressman Richard Pombo (R-Calif.).

Military officials said they don't judge the policy and they follow orders passed down from the government.

"The policy is that you don't ask and you don't tell. As an enrollment officer, I don't care and I don't ask," said Major Jon Chytka, scholarship and enrollment officer for the Army ROTC at Georgetown University, part of the Washington ROTC Consortium.

All D.C.-area students enrolled in the ROTC program take Army courses at Georgetown University, Navy classes at GW and Air Force classes at Howard University. There are 132 midshipmen enrolled at GW.

"We support every policy to the best of our ability. It's not our position to judge," Chytka said.

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Arlyn Stokes/Hatchet photographer

Workers continue to clear out the old GW Hospital as University officials wait for a permit to demolish the Pennsylvania Avenue building.

Officials consider hospital future

by Rupal Doshi
Hatchet Reporter

GW officials said they plan to tear down the former GW hospital and begin plans for a new building within the next nine months that could include a combination of commercial, retail, academic and residential uses.

Facilities management officials have been cleaning out equipment and machinery from the building since the hospital moved from its former location at 23rd and I streets in August, but the facility has not been used for medical purposes since the move.

Officials said they are current-

ly in preliminary planning stages for the new building, but no final decisions have been made.

"(We're) not just putting up another residence hall ... we want it to be an architecturally important building," said GW President Stephen Joel Trachtenberg, noting the site's prominent location on Pennsylvania Avenue.

He said the University needs to engage in the "usual dance" of speaking to neighborhood groups, designers and architects, and assessing University and community needs before proceeding with any plans.

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