

Violence report to be released May 23

By MICHAEL LIGHTSTONE Staff Reporter

Crime and public safety in metro are to be in the spotlight May 23 at two events at Halifax city hall.

That's when Halifax regional council is scheduled to be briefed on the long-awaited report from the mayor's roundtable on violence, Mayor Peter Kelly said Friday.

An hour after the politicians' 10 a.m. briefing, the report will be released publicly at a news conference.

The author of the report, Dalhousie University criminologist Don Clairmont, gave Mr. Kelly a draft copy of the comprehensive document several days ago.

His twice-delayed study was commissioned after an American navy sailor was stabbed to death in downtown Halifax in 2006.

That murder made international news, and Mr. Kelly announced his roundtable on violence shortly after the homicide.

The report was prepared following extensive public consultation and will include recommendations touching various segments of society.

It's to be released 20 days after the city's latest murder victim, Jaumar Carvery, died in hospital. He was shot several times in Uniacke Square in Halifax on May 3.

Halifax Regional Police have not made any arrests but are still investigating the killing of the 21-year-old father of two. Homicide investigators are asking for the public's help. Anyone with information about the crime is asked to call 490-5333, or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477.

According to the Halifax police department's website, there have been 12 unsolved murders in the municipality since 2003. That number does not include the shooting death of Mr. Carvery, the city's third murder victim so far this year.

Uniacke Square is one of the prime target areas for the Guardian Angels, who are to start patrols in Halifax this month. The others are Pizza Corner and the Halifax Commons.

Neither Mr. Kelly nor Police Chief Frank Beazley supports the Angels' presence in the city.

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