

TRANSSEXUAL POLICE OFFICER

WASHINGTON D.C. — A man who worked for more than seven years as a Washington police officer before undergoing a sex-change operation last year has asked to be reinstated on the police force as a woman. Bonnie Davenport, formerly Ormus W. Davenport III, went to the D.C. Police and Fire Clinic on Jan. '9 to begin a series of physical and psychological tests in hopes she will be found fit to return to active duty on the 4,100 member police force.

Davenport has been on leave without pay since last February. She said her sex-reassignment surgery two months ago was "totally successful," according to the *Washington Post*, adding "Now I'm ready to go back to work in the one job I really want to do. I love police work." Davenport had been assigned as an undercover detective who worked to crack the celebrated "Sting" fencing operation in Washington.

Police officials would not comment publicly on the case, although some said privately that they could not see how the transsexual surgery could bar Davenport from reinstatement, assuming she passes the physical and psychological standards. A board of surgeons at the clinic is expected to rule on the case soon. The board could recommend reinstatement or retirement on medical disability.

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