January 10, 2008

Metropolitan Police Department Releases 2007 Crime Statistics
City's Crime Rate Drops Nearly 16 Percent
Auto Theft Down 53% from 2002 Peak

At a news conference today, Colonel Joseph J. Mokwa, Chief of Police, announced the 2007 Crime Statistics touting a 15.6 percent decrease in overall crime in the City of St. Louis. Property Crimes were down 16.6 percent and Crimes Against Persons were down 11.1 percent. The most significant drop in crime was with auto thefts. In 2007, the number of automobiles stolen was down 53 percent from 2002's high and down 27 percent from 2006.

"The credit for these reductions belongs first and foremost to the men and women of the Metropolitan Police Department, who every day, in very challenging situations, work tirelessly to do the best job they can to improve the quality of life in St. Louis" said Chief Mokwa. In 2007, officers made nearly 40,000 arrests. Their efforts, and their successes, have been spread throughout the City, with every district realizing decreases in Total Crime.

Chief Mokwa also pointed to several initiatives put in place in 2007 as contributors to the impressive decrease in crime. "At the beginning of 2007, I announced some very aggressive initiatives designed to help curb crime in our city. I believe these initiatives have had a positive impact on our crime statistics," stated Chief Mokwa.

The Department formed the **Crime Suppression Unit (CSU)** which serves as a swift, tactical unit that identifies problem "hot spots" and aggressively targets chronic criminals. In 2007, **CSU** made 1,625 arrests and seized 257 weapons. The Unit recovered 359 stolen vehicles. The Department also created its **Crime Analysis Unit (CAU)**, staffed by a combination of commissioned and civilian analysts. The CAU utilizes state-of-the-art geographical mapping

information systems, to quickly identify crime patterns to help commanders deploy resources to help prevent crime before it happens.

The Department also instituted a **CompStat Model. CompStat,** which began in the NYPD**,** holds commanders accountable for the crimes in their areas. Aided by the CAU, Comp Stat gives district commanders real-time data so they can better monitor and understand crime trends.

Colonel Chris Goodson, President of the Board of Police Commissioners, said Chief Mokwa delivered just what the Board expected. "This Board was confident that the Chief's cutting edge approach to attacking crime would result in this significant reduction," stated Colonel Goodson. "I also believe it is important to give credit to the police officers who worked diligently to achieve this decrease in crime."

"Residents and visitors to the City of St. Louis can feel safer because crimes against people and property went down last year," added Mayor Francis Slay, "We are trying to make our City the best it can be and these numbers show our hard work is paying off. I am very pleased with the progress we made in 2007 and I am looking for even better numbers in 2008."

Chief Mokwa ended by saying "The Department's challenge for 2008 is to continually look at aggressive, innovative approaches to reduce crime." In late December the Metropolitan Police Department began administering a $500,000 grant to form a unique partnership with the Police Executive Research Forum (PERF) to reduce violent crime in St. Louis. "We truly expect this to have a positive impact on violent crime in 2008" said Mokwa.

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CITY OF ST. LOUIS
PART ONE CRIME COMPARISON BASED ON UCR REPORTING
2006 VS. 2007

	2006	**2007**	**Change**	**Percentage Change**
Homicide	129	138	9	7.00%
Rape	337	255	-82	-24.3%
Robbery	3,147	2,761	-386	-12.3%
Aggravated Assault	4,992	4,500	-492	-9.9%
Total Person Crime	8,605	7,654	-951	-11.1%
Burglary	8,510	7,289	-1,221	-14.3%
Larceny	23,552	20,330	-3,222	-13.7%
Vehicle Theft	8,645	6,282	-2,363	-27.3%
Arson	431	410	-21	-4.9%
Total Property Crime	41,138	34,311	-6,827	-16.6%
Total Crime	**49,743**	**41,965**	**-7,778**	**-15.6%**

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