

ST. LOUIS METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

NEWS RELEASE

PUBLIC INFORMATION DIVISION

1200 CLARK AVE.

ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI 63103

(314) 444-5603

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Police Board Accepts Chief's Recommendation

Police Officers Demoted for Use of World Series Tickets

The Board of Police Commissioners at its executive session on Wednesday, April 18, 2007, agreed with the recommendation of Chief Joe Mokwa that eight police officers be reduced in rank for one year for providing family members with Cardinal baseball tickets for the 2006 post-season games that were seized from scalpers.

The following police officers were demoted from the rank of police officer to the rank of probationary police officers: Phillip Edmond, Michael Ehnes, Thomas Kitchell, Wendell Ishmon, Thomas Kranz, Steven Schwerb and Joseph Somogye. Police Officer Phillip Menendez was demoted from the rank of Sergeant to the rank of police officer. The officers also served a two week suspension.

The Department's Internal Affairs Division began investigating the officers in early November 2006, after receiving a complaint from a citizen that his confiscated tickets were inappropriately used during the World Series.

In addition to these officers, three officers will be disciplined for internal procedural violations, one lieutenant and three sergeants will be disciplined for failure to supervise. The investigation into these violations is ongoing. All the officers involved in this matter have been transferred from the Vice/ Narcotics Division.

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