

METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT
NEWS RELEASE
PUBLIC INFORMATION DIVISION
1200 CLARK AVE.
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI 63103
(314) 444-5603

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Community Supports Department's Gun Buy Back Program
More than 500 Weapons Turned in on One Day Event

Area residents braved the cold, the snow and long lines to turn in 536 weapons at the Metropolitan Police Department's Sixth District's Gun Buy Back Program held Saturday, December 15, 2007, at the Galloway Entertainment Complex located at 8340 North Broadway. The Department gave \$20,000 in cash for the exchange of guns and another \$7000 was given in vouchers after the cash ran out. The event was scheduled for 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., but lasted longer as the department gave everyone the opportunity to turn in their weapons.

Colonel Joseph J. Mokwa calls the event a huge success. "It speaks volumes for our citizen's commitment to making our community safe," added Mokwa. "It also shows what the Community and the Police Department can accomplish when we work together."

The Department received (1) semi-automatic machine gun, (127) rifles, (161) shotguns and (247) semi-automatic weapons and revolvers during the Saturday Buy Back Event. Citizens who turned in any assault-type weapons received \$100.00 cash and \$50.00 cash was paid for revolvers and shotguns with no questions asked.

The program was co-sponsored by radio station, 100.3 The Beat and KPLR-TV, CW11. Other participants included Galloway Entertainment Complex, the 6th District Business Association, Community Leaders from Wards 1, 2, 21, 22 and 27, Neighborhood Stabilization Officers, St. Louis Caring Communities, St. Louis

Stabilization of the Mayor's Office and the TMAP/Riverview West Florissant
Development Corporation.

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