

METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT
NEWS RELEASE
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Popular Police Commander Announces Retirement
Lt. Colonel Gregory R. Hawkins Rejuvenated Department's PAL Program

Lt. Colonel Gregory R. Hawkins, Deputy Chief and Commander of the Metropolitan Police Department's Bureau of Auxiliary Services, announced his retirement after more than 38 years with the Department. Hawkins, who began his career as a police cadet in July of 1968 and then entered the Police Academy as a recruit in January of 1970, is the highest ranking African-American in the Department.

Lt. Colonel Hawkins was responsible for revitalizing the Department's Police Athletic League (P.A. L.) and currently serves as its president. P.A.L. is a juvenile-oriented crime prevention program that relies heavily on athletics and recreational activities to create and cement the bond between police officers and young people in our community. Today more than 1500 youngsters participate in organized sports with 85 police officers serving as volunteer coaches. "He has diligently worked to make this program a success and because of his efforts many children now have the opportunity to participate in organized sports and be mentored by police officers" stated Colonel Joseph J. Mokwa, Chief of Police. "Colonel Hawkins should be proud of what he has accomplished in his career." Lt. Colonel Hawkins plans to remain very active with P.A.L.

As commander of the Department's North Patrol Division, he gained considerable recognition for his commitment to the residents in the patrol area. "Lt. Colonel Hawkins will be remembered for his dedication to make St. Louis a better place to work and to live," stated Chief Mokwa.

Lt. Colonel Hawkins also serves on the Board of Directors of ARCHS (Area Resources for Community and Human Services) and the Dismas House Community Relations Board. He is married and has three children. His retirement is effective today, February 12, 2007.

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