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NEWS RELEASE

METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

Service, Integrity, Leadership, and Fair Treatment to All

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2010 Crime Statistics Released; Violent Crime, Vehicle Thefts & Overall Crime at Lowest Levels in More than Four Decades

Today the Metropolitan Police Department, City of St. Louis (“the department”) released 2010 Uniform Crime Reporting (“UCR”) statistics showing that when it comes to violent crimes and the most serious property crimes, the City of St. Louis experienced the lowest number of total reported overall crime and total reported violent crime in more than four decades.

The 33,782 reported Part I Crimes in 2010 is a 9.2% decrease when compared to 2009. Reported Part I Crimes are at their lowest levels since 1967, when 30,826 Part I crimes were reported. Part I crimes are comprised of Homicides, Forcible Rapes, Robberies, Aggravated Assaults, Burglaries, Larcenies/Thefts, Vehicle Thefts and Arsons.

“These decreases show we’re headed in the right direction,” said Chief Dan Isom who attributed the decreases to hard-working officers, more effective and sophisticated crime analysis and support from neighborhood watch groups. “Still,” continued Chief Isom, “if you or your family or your business were among those who were victims of crime last year, these decreases won’t mean much to you. We still have a lot of work to do and citizens are our single greatest crime-fighting resource. I continue to urge citizens to report crimes, to talk to police when you have information about a crime and to assist with prosecutions. The ‘stop snitching’ mentality has not benefitted anyone except for the criminals who avoid arrest or prosecution when victims or witnesses stay silent.”

The department records crime according to the Federal Bureau of Investigation’s Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) guidelines. More information about the UCR program may be found at <http://www.ucrdatatool.gov/abouttheucr.cfm>. Total Part II crimes decreased 7.7% when compared to 2009. Complete Part II crime statistics are released each summer with the publication of the department’s Annual Report.

(More)

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2010 Part I Crime Statistics

2010 At a Glance

- **Total Part I Crimes decreased 9.2%** when compared to 2009, from 37,203 to 33,782
 - The last year in which fewer Part I Crimes were reported was 43 years ago in 1967, when 30,826 crimes were reported
- **Violent Crime (Crimes Against Persons) decreased 15.6%** when compared to 2009, from 7,353 to 6,205
 - The last year in which fewer violent crimes were reported was also 1967, when 6,020 violent crimes were reported
- **Property Crimes decreased 7.6%** when compared to 2009, from 29,850 to 27,577

2010 Reported Crimes Against Persons

- **Homicides** increased from 143 in 2009 to 144 in 2010, or 0.7%.
- **Forcible Rapes** decreased by 24.8% from 250 to 188
- **Robberies** decreased by 21.9% from 2,721 to 2,125. Reported robberies have not been lower since 1963 when there 2,098 reported robberies.
- **Aggravated Assaults** decreased by 11.6% from 4,239 to 3,748.

2010 Reported Property Crimes

- **Vehicle thefts** dropped to a nearly 50-year low. 4,263 vehicles were reported stolen in 2010, a 14.1% decrease as compared to 4,962 in 2009. Reported vehicle thefts have not been lower since 1961 when 3,522 vehicles were reported stolen.
- **Burglaries** decreased just slightly from 6,834 to 6,705 or 1.9%
 - Though fewer homes were burglarized during the day, more homes were burglarized at night and when homeowners were away from residences for extended periods. Thieves are also increasingly targeting businesses.
- **Larcenies** decreased by 8.1% from 17,799 to 16,356
 - Yet there was an increase in the sub-category of “Other Larcenies” from 1,805 to 2,408. “Other Larcenies” include simple thefts, thefts of air-conditioning units and thefts of exterior copper wiring
 - It should be noted that in the sub-category of “Larcenies from a Motor Vehicle” there was a 5.6% increase in the number of victims when compared to 2009. There were 9,521 victims in 2010 compared to 9,011 victims in 2009. (By UCR guidelines, if one car is broken into and property belonging to five people is stolen from that car, there is one crime with five victims. Under the UCR’s time and place rule, if 15 cars on the same parking lot are all discovered broken into around the same time and property belonging to 42 different people is stolen/damaged from those 15 cars, there is one UCR crime with 42 victims. See the FBI’s UCR guidelines for further explanation of how crimes are counted.)
- **Arsons** decreased just slightly from 255 to 253 or 0.8%

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