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**NEWS RELEASE**

## **METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Service, Integrity, Leadership, and Fair Treatment to All

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### **2012 Crime Statistics Released – Overall Crime Continues to Drop** *Violent Crime Against Person and Property Crime Show Decreases from 2011*

Today, the Metropolitan Police Department, City of St. Louis (“the department”) released its 2012 Uniform Crime Reporting (“UCR”) statistics showing that when it comes to overall crime and the most serious violent crime, the city achieved record low numbers.

In 2012 the department reported 27,853 Part I Crimes (Homicides, Forcible Rapes, Robberies, Aggravated Assaults, Burglaries, Larcenies/Thefts, Vehicle Thefts and Arsons). This represents a 12.4 percent decrease compared to 2011 when there were 31,811 reported Part I Crimes.

The department reported 113 Homicides in 2012, which is equal to the number of Homicides reported in 2011.

"The City has made tremendous progress. Crime has gone down in the City at double the national average. We should be proud of that. But, crime is still unacceptably high in some of our neighborhoods. Our job as police officers is to make crime go down everywhere and allow everyone in our City to be and feel safe. That is our department's mission," said Chief Sam Dotson.

University of Missouri-St. Louis professor, Dr. Richard Rosenfeld said, “The decline in serious assaults, primarily with firearms, which occurred in the second half of the year was a direct result of focused patrol and hotspot policing. We are pleased with the department’s efforts and optimistic about the year-end numbers.”

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>.

**(More)**

## 2012 Part I Crime Statistics

### 2012 At a Glance

- **Total Part I Crimes decreased 12.4 percent** when compared to 2011, from 31,811 to 27,853
  - This represents the lowest number since 1966, when 25,798 crimes were reported
- **Violent Crime (Crimes Against Persons) decreased 4.9 percent** when compared to 2011, There were 5,660 Crimes Against Persons reported in 2012 compared to 5,951 in 2011
- **Property Crimes decreased 14.2 percent** when compared to 2011, from 25,860 to 22,193

### 2012 Reported Crimes Against Persons

- **Homicides** remained even at 113, when compared to Homicides reported in 2011
  - This represents the lowest number since 2003, when 74 Homicides were reported
- **Forcible Rapes** increased by 5.9 percent from 188 to 199
- **Aggravated Assaults** increased by 1.4 percent from 3,523 to 3,571
  - In August, the department initiated 30-day HDI strategy to address violent crimes specifically Aggravated Assaults which had increased 14 percent for the same time period in 2011. The result was a 68 percent reduction over the same period the prior month as well as the same period in 2011
- **Robberies** decreased 16.5 percent from 2,127 in 2011 to 1,777
  - This represents the lowest number since 1953, when 1,378 Robberies were reported

### 2012 Reported Property Crimes

- **Vehicle thefts** increased 3.6 percent from 3,369 to 3,489. However, vehicle thefts in 2012 represent the second lowest year since 1952 when 3,522 were reported stolen.
- **Burglaries** decreased 28.9 percent from 7,015 to 4,986
  - This represents the lowest number since 1953, when 4,854 Burglaries were reported
- **Larcenies** decreased by 11.5 percent from 15,285 to 13,520
  - Larcenies of Motor Vehicle Parts decreased from 3,389 to 2,744
- **Arsons** increased 3.7 percent from 191 to 198

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