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NEWS RELEASE

METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

Service, Integrity, Leadership, and Fair Treatment to All

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Chief Dotson Implements Homicide Deterrence Initiative (HDI)

To Combat Violence in the College Hill Neighborhood

Today, Chief Sam Dotson announced the implementation of the Homicide Deterrence Initiative (HDI) to aggressively investigate, identify and arrest the offenders responsible for the recent increase in violent crime in the College Hill neighborhood. The goal of the HDI is to stop the violence. Chief Dotson said, "We will put an end to the senseless violence in College Hill, using every resource available to combat these acts of violence and implement strategies to make the neighborhood safer and return a sense of normalcy."

In the past few weeks, there have been four shootings in the College Hill neighborhood resulting in three homicides and one person being critically injured. Investigation has revealed all four incidents to be connected. The HDI is a combined effort using officers and resources from S.W.A.T., Rapid Deployment, Canine, Traffic Safety, Violent Offenders Unit, Anti-Crime, Narcotics, Homicide, Intelligence, Problem Properties and Community Outreach among others.

Starting today, residents in the College Hill neighborhood can expect to see a significant police presence in the area. Officers will patrol in uniform, driving marked police vehicles, as well as in an undercover capacity, in unmarked vehicles. Traffic Safety checkpoints will be conducted and our mobile command center will be operating in the area. Officer roll calls are being moved from the area stations to the neighborhood. Community Outreach officers will be distributing information to citizens on how they can assist.

The HDI will target the College Hill neighborhood for an undetermined amount of time. In the coming days or weeks, the results of this initiative will be assessed to determine the department's next course of action.

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Incident: Homicide

Location: 2000 block of E. Desoto

Date/Time: 01/25/13 @ 8:15 p.m.

Victim: Brian Scott-Watson, 26-year old black male of the 2000 block of E. College

Suspect: Unknown

Officers responded to a call of "shots fired" and discovered the victim in the above location with gunshot wounds to the neck and chest. The victim was pronounced deceased at the scene. The investigation is ongoing.

Incident: Homicide

Location: 2000 block of E. Linton

Dates/Time: 01/26/2013 @ 7:53 a.m.

Victim: Odia Patterson, 52-year old black male of the 2000 block of E Linton

Suspect: Young black male

Officers received a call for a "Shooting" at the above location and discovered the victim shot in the head and torso. The victim was pronounced deceased at the scene. The investigation is ongoing.

Incident: Homicide

Location: 4200 block of Obear

Dates/Time: 02/04/2013 @ 10 05 a.m.

Victim: Odell Greenwood, 27-year old black male of the 2100 block of Desoto

Suspect: Unknown

Officers responded to the above location and discovered the victim who had gunshot wounds to the head. The victim was pronounced deceased at the scene. The investigation is ongoing.

Incident: Assault 1st

Location: N 20th/ E. Prairie

Dates/Time: 02/01/2013 @ 8:30 a.m.

Victim: 40-year old black male

Suspect: 18-20 year old black male wearing a black hoodie and driving a black Dodge Avenger

Officers responded to a traffic accident at the above location and found the victim in a red Chevrolet with gunshot wound to the shoulder, arm, and chin. The victim was conveyed to hospital an in critical condition. The investigation is ongoing.