



PUBLIC INFORMATION DIVISION  
1200 Clark Ave.  
St. Louis, Missouri 63103  
(314) 444-5603

**NEWS RELEASE**

## **METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Service, Integrity, Leadership, and Fair Treatment to All

June 19, 2013

### **Metropolitan Police Department and St. Louis County Police Department Bomb and Arson Units Join Forces**

Today, at the Board of Police Commissioners regular meeting, the Board accepted the recommendation of Chief Sam Dotson to combine operations of the Metropolitan Police Department, City of St. Louis (“the department”) and the St. Louis County Police Department Bomb and Arson units to jointly provide police services within the City of St. Louis and St. Louis County.

The 10-person combined unit will be staffed by 4 Metropolitan Police Detectives and 1 Sergeant, and 4 Detectives, 1 Sergeant and 2 canines from St. Louis County Police Department. Combining the two units will enable the Bomb and Arson office to be staffed 16 hours per day, improve response time, cut costs, and merge state-of-the-art equipment to provide the best possible police service to citizens.

“The collaboration of both units strengthens our staffing and resources, allowing officers to be more efficient when addressing crime in our region,” said Chief Sam Dotson. “We know criminals don’t recognize city and county borders when committing crimes, and neither should law enforcement. I believe this is a step in the right direction.”

The merger of the department’s Bomb and Arson unit and the St. Louis County Police Department’s Bomb and Arson unit becomes effective July 1.

###

**Service, Integrity, Leadership and Fair Treatment to All**