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MEDIA ALERT

METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

Service, Integrity, Leadership, and Fair Treatment to All

July 13, 2010

Officers and Civilian of the Year for 2009 to Be Honored

More than 35 Officers, Civilians and Citizens Will Also Receive Awards at Ceremony

The Metropolitan Police Department will hold an Awards Ceremony on Wednesday, July 14, 2010, at Harris-Stowe State University, 3026 Laclede Avenue at 7 p.m. to recognize the outstanding efforts of more than 35 police officers, civilian employees and citizens. In addition to honoring the District Officers of the Year and two Civilian of the Year nominees, the 2009 Overall Officers and Overall Civilian of the Year will be honored.

The 2009 Overall Officers of the Year are Fifth District Police Officers Kyle Chandler and Joseph Haman, who were selected for their exemplary efforts as partners throughout 2009. They made 114 arrests, resulting in 121 felony charges being issued. They were chosen by their peers as 5th District Officers of the Month a total of five times that year.

The 2009 Overall Civilian of the Year is Karl Johnson, an armed security guard for the department and a talented artist in his spare time. Last year when the department reinstated "Officer Friendly," a program where St. Louis Police Officers visit elementary schools to talk with children about safety, Johnson voluntarily created a professional-quality companion coloring book with vivid illustrations, diverse characters and great attention to detail.

Other awards to be presented include the most prestigious award the department gives, the Distinguished Service Citation. The officer receiving the award came under fire following an attempted robbery. Five police officers will also receive the Meritorious Service Citation, awarded for exemplary behavior in the face of personal danger. The Chief's Letter of Commendation will be awarded to 16 police officers who demonstrated a special perseverance in policing and the department will also honor the first-ever recipients of the newly created Citizen Service Award. Four citizens will receive the award for their partnership with the department in assisting victims of domestic violence and sexual assault.

Please join us as we honor the achievements of each recipient and the commitment they show to making St. Louis a safer place.

WHO: Metropolitan Police Department Employees and St. Louis Citizens

WHAT: Metropolitan Police Department Awards Ceremony

WHERE: Harris-Stowe State University, 3026 Laclede Avenue

WHEN: Wednesday, July 14, 2010 at 7 p.m.