

CHICAGO POLICE DEPARTMENT



PAX 501



JAMES M. ROCHFORD SUPERINTENDENT

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My last message to you reported the need for the Chicago Police Department to identify a Blood Donor Plan to replace the Mt. Sinai Blood Center which has merged with the American Red Cross on 10 July 1975. Because a Blood Donor Plan effects each of us individually and personally, I was reluctant to make a decision without consulting with each of you. Therefore, I directed that a survey be conducted; for no Blood Donor Plan can succeed without support from its members.

I am pleased to announce that 84% of our membership indicated support for the Red Cross Plan. I will, therefore, sign the agreement and take the necessary steps to initiate this program.

I personally feel that this is a good plan which provides the broadest benefits available. Basically, these are:

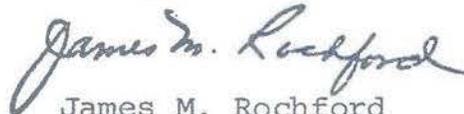
1. All members, their families, retirees, dependents of deceased members, etc., are included in the coverage.
2. Persons with serious blood diseases excluded from the former plan are now covered.
3. At no time will members have to replenish blood used on an individual basis. The only time blood may be requested would be in the case of a rare blood type needed in an emergency situation.
4. Mobile Blood-Mobiles will be made available to facilitate donating.

A Special Order will be issued shortly, which will contain the complete details on coverage, donating and so forth.

Those members who did not indicate support for this particular plan are free to participate in any other plan of their choice. But, I sincerely regard the American Red Cross Plan as one of the best available and I am confident that experience will justify our participation.

Although an unrelated matter, I would be remiss if I did not thank every member of the Department for their efforts in reducing crime in 1975. Your hard work resulted in a 3.6% reduction in Index Crimes and a 6.4% reduction in total crime. Considering the 9% increase in Crime Nation-wide, this is a remarkable achievement which has received national and local acclaim. Good, basic police work can achieve results and we have proved it.

But while we can take pride in past achievements, we must face future challenges. Our fine record for 1975 will make it more difficult to maintain this downward trend in crime throughout 1976. Therefore, aggressive, preventive patrol, competent investigations, internal integrity, and community participation must be intensified throughout 1976. That is our challenge and I am confident we will meet it.



James M. Rochford
Superintendent of Police