



CHICAGO POLICE DEPARTMENT

PAX 501

Jody P. Weis, *Superintendent of Police*

VOLUME 9

29 December 2009

NUMBER 17

2009: Thank You For A Job Well Done

As 2009 draws to a close, I would like to thank each of you for your service and dedication over the past year.

Everyday, each one of you serves and protects our city. Answering calls, handling incidents, and facing danger at every turn, the members of this organization uphold the values of honor, courage and commitment that symbolize the Chicago Police Department. When a member of the public calls for assistance, and a representative of this organization arrives, they can take comfort knowing that a member of the finest law enforcement organization in the world is there to assist.

We started 2009 with one shared purpose – results. The impact of this focus, and your hard work, has been evident. Crime dropped consistently in nearly every category. Gun recoveries and search warrants exceeded previous year totals. Operational and administrative units worked together to pursue the gangs, guns and drugs that continue to plague too many of our City's neighborhoods. In the end, your hard work has contributed to another year of record-low crime statistics and, with that, safer neighborhoods.

Success rarely comes without sacrifice, and our Department was no exception in this last year. The loss of Alejandro "Alex" Valadez, the injuries sustained by Densley Cole, and the sacrifices made by other Department members, is a painful reminder to all of us, and the entire city, of the dangers faced by those in law enforcement. As we move forward, we will find strength in the examples of these individuals.

Over the course of the last year, we have also made significant progress in terms of equipment, vehicles, technology and improving the processes within the Department to provide each of you with the tools and resources to effectively and safely do your jobs. Yet, we have more to do. As we enter 2010, I will continue to tackle the issues which affect your ability to police effectively. I have directed the Command Staff to continue to work to improve the policies and practices of the Department, for you. I encourage your input to ensure that I am hearing your needs and working to meet them. As with last year, the realities of the City's budget present us with distinct challenges. I will keep fighting to try to get you the support and tools that you need to safely go out and be the police.

Our vision for 2010 is clear: finding and implementing optimal ways to continue to reduce crime. A professional police force that embraces partnerships and emphasizes leadership, technology, training and equipment will be the means by which we will aggressively confront gangs, guns and drugs.

The good people in this city recognize your service, as do I. It is my deepest privilege to serve as your Superintendent, and I thank you for a job well done over the course of the last year and I look forward to continued successes in the coming year.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "J. Weis".

Jody P. Weis
Superintendent of Police