



## CHICAGO POLICE DEPARTMENT

# PAX 501

Jody P. Weis, *Superintendent of Police*

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### Holiday Message

As this year ends, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your hard work, dedication and commitment over the past twelve months.

This past year has been one of remarkable achievements for the Chicago Police Department. Crime has dropped in nearly every category and we continue to remove guns from the streets in record numbers in comparison to other cities. Continued success in the number of search warrants executed and the resulting seizures made communities and neighborhoods safer. This speaks volumes to the hard work of the men and women of the Chicago Police Department.

Embracing the values of policing, professionalism and partnerships, our Department has proactively and positively contributed to change within our city. You have done this with fewer available resources, and often under adverse conditions. But, in so doing, you have shown the temperament of the Chicago Police Department, characterized in the honor, courage and commitment displayed by each of you.

I have always said that the Chicago Police Department is the finest law enforcement organization in the world; over the course of the last year, you have shown this to be true. Every day, the men and women of the Chicago Police Department serve and protect our city, and its residents. A debt of gratitude is owed by this city to each of you. On behalf of a grateful city, I offer a heartfelt "thank you."

It has also been a challenging year for all of us. The tragic deaths of our members weigh heavy on our hearts. These losses, as well as the injuries and sacrifices suffered by other members of the Department and – as this past week demonstrated – our brothers and sisters in the Fire Department, is a reminder to each of us of the dangers faced by all first responders. Our thoughts and prayers are with the Chicago Fire Department. As we move forward, we will never forget the examples that these brave men provided, and we will continue to honor their memories through our own actions.

Over the course of the last year, we have made significant progress in terms of equipment, vehicles, technology, and training. We continue to strive to provide each of you with the tools and resources to effectively and safely perform your jobs. From the citywide deployment of Tasers, the continued roll-out of new vehicles, the increased weapons training on carbines, the approval of better off-duty weapons, the full introduction of a new work schedule, as well as the availability of full medical benefits for members who choose to retire at the age of fifty-five, we have worked diligently to move the Department forward.

Yet, I know that there is more to do. The economic realities of the city continue to present us with unique challenges. Nonetheless, I will continue to work to get you the support and tools that you need to safely go out and be an effective police officer. The recent police applicant test was one significant step in this process. As we move forward, I would continue to encourage you to provide input, to ensure that I am hearing your needs and working to meet them.

As we enter 2011, the Chicago Police Department will remain committed to serving and protecting our great city, its residents, and guests alike. We will continue to implement practices and technology to further support you, and assist in reducing crime. We will aggressively confront gangs, guns and drugs in a professional manner that embraces partnerships and the intelligence-led policing which has yielded such dramatic results.

As 2010 draws to a close, my wife and I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your families a happy holiday season and best wishes for a joyous new year. We would also like to thank you, again, for your service. It is my deepest privilege to serve as your Superintendent, and I thank you for a job well done; I look forward to sharing continued successes with each of you in the coming year.

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

Jody P. Weis  
Superintendent of Police