



CHICAGO POLICE DEPARTMENT

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Garry F. McCarthy, *Superintendent of Police*

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ST. JUDE MEMORIAL MARCH AND A "THANK YOU"

Every year, on the first Sunday of May, the Chicago Police Department recognizes one of the oldest and proudest traditions, honoring the 567 heroes who have made the ultimate sacrifice. This year marks the 83rd anniversary of the memorial march, and the St. Jude Police League will once again honor our fallen police officers. Members of the law enforcement community will gather and march at the Gold Star Families Memorial and Park.

I invite all of you to join us on Sunday, May 3rd, at Solidarity and Museum Campus Drive. Complimentary parking for police personnel and families attending the St. Jude Memorial March will be available in the Waldron Deck Parking Garage, the South lot of Soldier Field, or the North Garage of Soldier Field. Extended family members and friends are welcome to view the March from the west side of Museum Drive, across from the Park. The March will proceed south on Museum Campus Drive to Waldron Drive and step off promptly at 0800 hours. Department members are advised to arrive by 0700 hours. Immediately at the conclusion of the March, there will be a brief 15 minute interfaith service presented by the Chicago Police Department Chaplain's Unit. Department members and guests are invited to attend this service.

On another note, I would like to take a moment to thank you for your dedication, professionalism and service in the first quarter of 2015. Your constant, earnest effort and hard work result in a safer city and a successful Department that continues to build positive relationships with the communities that we serve. However, as you know, our goals as an organization are far from complete. As the summer months approach, we have different challenges ahead of us in all of our communities throughout the city. We must strive to reduce violent crime, shootings, and homicides one day at a time, which coincides with our mission to serve and protect all of the citizens of Chicago.

In addition, this is a very complicated time for our profession across the nation. In my opinion, most members of the general public appreciate and support law enforcement personnel. On the other hand, a small segment of the population has been critical of our profession recently. Therefore, I would like to remind you to be confident in your skills and trust in your training and experience concerning any situation of adversity. We are the Chicago Police Department and our organization epitomizes professionalism, obligation, leadership, integrity, courage, and excellence.

Lastly, officer safety is of the utmost importance. Always be aware of your surroundings and watch out for your fellow officers. Remember, we need to go home physically, mentally, and emotionally healthy at the end of every tour of duty to our families and loved ones. Once again, thank you for everything that you do for the Chicago Police Department and the citizens of Chicago. Your hard work is genuinely appreciated.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Garry F. McCarthy".

Garry F. McCarthy
Superintendent

