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PRESS RELEASE

Captain Robert Redmond & Sgt. Andy Breidenich
Public Information Officers

Telephone: 248-524-3447 – Cell: 248-680-7219 – Fax: 248-524-9023

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City of Troy Recognized Once Again in “Safest City” Crime Rankings

CQ Press has released their “City Crime Rankings 2013: Crime in Metropolitan America:” (<http://www.cqpress.com/product/City-Crime-Rankings-2012-2013.html>). Troy is ranked as the third overall safest city in Michigan and 36th safest city overall in America. Making this designation more significant is Troy’s proximity to more dangerous areas.

CQ Press uses six crime categories to establish crime rate rankings for all cities with a population of at least 75,000 that report crime data to the FBI. The crime categories include: murder, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary and motor vehicle theft. The rankings in the CQ report are based upon data reported to the FBI for 2011.

According to the report, Troy has the 2nd lowest crime rate ranking in Michigan for cities with populations of 75,000 to 99,999 (third overall regardless of population size limits). Troy was ranked as the safest city in Michigan 11 of the last 16 ranking periods. Troy has achieved “Safest City” rankings as high as 5th and 6th in the overall United States, in 2006 and 2005, respectively. In fact, in other than 2009, when it ranked 38th overall, Troy has consistently ranked among the top 25 safest cities in the United States with populations over 75,000 since 1998.

The crime categories used by CQ Press include all FBI Part 1 crimes, except larceny and arson. The FBI defines Part I crimes as the more serious crimes that occur in a community.

The number of Part 1 crimes reported to the Troy Police Department from 2000 through 2011 is:

2000: 2387	2004: 1979	2008: 1950
2001: 2316	2005: 2044	2009: 1957
2002: 2061	2006: 2090	2010: 1783
2003: 2107	2007: 1971	2011: 1856

Incidents of violent crime, which include murder, rape, robbery and aggravated assault, are extremely low. In 2011, there were only 64 violent crimes reported to the Troy Police Department, which represents less than 3.5% of the total Part 1 crime in Troy.

Murder:	0
Rapes:	17
Robberies:	14
Aggravated Assault:	33

It should be noted that although 17 acts of criminal sexual conduct that occurred in Troy are classified as “rapes” in the FBI statistics, these types of assaults in Troy do not usually involve a victim being attacked by a stranger. There were no forcible rapes involving a stranger assaulting an unknown victim in 2011. Acts of criminal sexual conduct in Troy generally relate to incidents where one of the actors is a minor, complaints where incest or molestation by family members are alleged, or complaints of non-consensual acts between individuals who are acquainted with one another.

The Troy Police Department responded to a total of 35,018 incidents of all types in 2011. The Troy Dispatch center received approximately 173,000 incoming telephone calls in 2011, of which 40,335 were 911 calls. The department hosted 181 crime prevention and other safety programs in 2011, which were attended by 12,917 citizens. Additional workload statistics for 2011 are noted below:

Arrests:	2371 (391 drunk driving)
Criminal Cases Investigated:	1716
Traffic Crashes:	3,581
Traffic Citations:	11,320 (7,884 crash causing hazardous violations)

This “Safest City” ranking represents an ongoing and significant achievement not only for the Troy Police Department, but for the community in general. It is a tribute to the residents; an excellent school system; strong prevention programs such as those provided by the Troy Community Coalition, Boys and Girls Club, Troy Youth Assistance, and many others; an effective District Court; and an active business community. The current ranking for one of the lowest crime rates in Michigan reinforces the high quality of life that is offered in Troy. The Troy Police Department is dedicated to continuing to work with the community we serve, as well as City Management and City Government to assure this city remains a safe and attractive place to live, work and play.

In commenting on the latest ranking, Troy Police Chief Gary Mayer spoke about the dedication and quality of the employees of the Troy Police Department along with the commitment to public safety this community has consistently sought to maintain. He pointed out the significant number of community volunteers that have come forward to act as our eyes and ears in conjunction with the “Citizens on Patrol Program,” which was formed in the face of prior staffing cuts. The Chief stated, “The Troy Police Department is made up of professional men and women who work hard to identify and solve problems. They, like so many in our community, have had to work through some significant challenges in terms of the current economic climate. They have been called upon to make sacrifices, yet they continue to provide this community with a level of law enforcement service that I am convinced is second to none. We have become a smaller, but more streamlined organization. We value the resources we have been provided and are dedicated to utilizing those resources to deliver the best law enforcement service possible.”

City Manager Mr. Brian Kischnick also reinforced these latest rankings as a significant accomplishment. Mr. Kischnick stated, *“The Troy City Council and citizens of Troy have always valued public safety. I am extremely proud of the Troy Police Department and all those that work with them to make Troy a great community to live, work, shop and raise a family.”*

The challenge is to maintain this safe community in the fiscal reality of shrinking resources. I am confident we will continue to rise to the challenge to remain one of the premier places to have a home and do business in the United States.”