



# Minneapolis Police Department

COMMITMENT, INTEGRITY & TRANSPARENCY

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## Media Release

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### **Minneapolis Chosen for National “Trust & Justice” Comprehensive Initiative**

(March 12, 2015) The Minneapolis Police Department continues its progressive journey as a leader in national community policing efforts. After considering approximately 100 cities for this project, the Department of Justice selected the City of Minneapolis as one of six cities to participate in its National Initiative for Building Community Trust & Justice. The National Initiative offers a multi-faceted approach to enhance community trust and help repair and strengthen the relationship between law enforcement and the communities they serve. Furthermore, the initiative explores, advances and disseminates information about strategies intended to enhance procedural justice, reduce implicit bias and support racial reconciliation.

“We have built a strong reputation as a department willing to put forward the work needed to enhance our community relationships. We are pleased to take part in this thorough and comprehensive program, which can only help us continue our mission of improving public safety and building public trust. I firmly believe we were chosen because of our commitment to forward-thinking, community policing and this new avenue of input will improve and advance the programs we’ve already put in place. It will also provide us with new ideas and strategies for resident engagement,” Chief Janeé Harteau said.

The Justice Department is partnering with national law enforcement experts from John Jay College of Criminal Justice, Yale Law School, the Center for Policing Equity at UCLA, and the Urban Institute for this project. The initiative implements and tests strategies in the selected cities to promote procedural justice, address issues of implicit bias and create opportunities for racial reconciliation, if they’re needed.

“Through this initiative, Minneapolis will be helping to create a model for the rest of the country to follow,” said Mayor Betsy Hodges. “We were selected because of the engaged and active community we have here, as we share the goal of creating safer

communities for everyone. I look forward to this initiative building upon the work we are already doing with the Department of Justice.”

“As a member of the Chief’s Citizen Advisory Council, we look forward to being part of this process. We are also proud to work with the Chief and the Mayor, who continue to remain at the forefront of the national movement toward greater police-community partnerships,” Rebecca Waggoner said.

The first 6 months of the initiative will include a visit to Minneapolis to develop detailed, site-specific project planning. Researchers will evaluate how the city has addressed procedural justice, racial reconciliation, implicit bias, violence prevention, and goals around subpopulations such as high-risk youth, victims of crime, victims of domestic violence, and the LGBTQI community.

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