



Chief's Update
March 8, 2013

Dear Tempe Police Employees,

Earlier this week, our department hosted an event for our city's neighborhood association presidents and homeowners association presidents. The purpose of the event was to communicate directly with our neighborhood leaders and provide them with the results of your crime fighting efforts over the past year.

During the meeting, our department's annual report was distributed and discussed. The event - and the manner in which we distributed the report - was well received by those in attendance which included Vice Mayor Onnie Shekerjian and Councilmember Kolby Granville.

Attached to this week's message is our 2012 Annual Report. Upon review of the report, you will quickly see that together, we accomplished a lot over the last year. We should be proud of our accomplishments as we overcame significant fiscal challenges and worked hard to achieve the four goals of our department's Strategic Plan: Fight Crime and Enhance Community Safety, Promote Community Involvement, Support and Develop Employees, and Enhance Innovation and Technology.

Through your daily commitment to keep our community safe and your dedication to service, I am pleased to point out that our *overall* UCR Part I crime rate fell by 10.1% when compared to CY 2011. Moreover, in responding to our citizen's request – expressed in the annual city survey - to place an emphasis on combatting property crimes, Tempe Police employees reduced property crimes by 12.1% when compared to CY 2011.

Despite our reductions in the *overall crime rate* - and the reductions made in the realm of *property crimes* - there was a 12.8% increase in the number of violent crime types committed in our city relative to CY 2011. Despite the varied reasons attributable to this increase, we must not lose our focus or our momentum and continue our efforts to combat this increase for 2013; the end goal being a reduction in all categories of crime.

To highlight some other positive results, I am pleased to report that in 2012 Tempe Police employees: responded to 150,861 calls for service; reduced intersection related collisions by 8% at targeted locations where photo enforcement had been previously utilized; proactively served and engaged

community members through positive police/citizen events; and implemented intelligence led policing strategies and technologies to keep our community safe.

In closing, I would like to thank each and every Tempe Police employee for their daily commitment to our organization and more importantly, to our citizens for their continued partnership and support. I am confident that we will continue to work hard over the course of the next year so that Tempe remains a safe, secure and vibrant community that is second to none.

Tom Ryff
Chief of Police