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BOARD OF FREEHOLDERS

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NEWS
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: October 5, 2011

There will be a conference call press event with John Timoney at 2 p.m. today. See call in information below. Joyce Gabriel will host.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: JOYCE GABRIEL

Camden County Submits Proposed Conceptual Plan for Camden County Police Department in Camden City

The Plan, written by Public Safety Consultant and Former Philadelphia Police Commissioner, John Timoney, Would Significantly Increase Overall Staffing and Officers on The Street

A little more than a month after signing a joint Memorandum of Understanding among the City of Camden, the County of Camden and the State of New Jersey on August 25 to explore Camden City joining a Camden County police department, a draft conceptual plan has been produced and was submitted to the state last Friday.

Once the City of Camden had expressed an interest in joining such a department, the County engaged the services of John Timoney, a nationally recognized public safety expert and former Commissioner of the Philadelphia Police Department. Timoney worked with the City and County public safety officials and experts to help write and create a plan for the City of Camden's policing needs as part of the countywide force.

"The plan is still a work in progress," said Louis Cappelli, Jr., Camden County Freeholder Director. "There needs to be due diligence on both sides—the county and the city – in reviewing this plan. There was not enough time within our deadline to sufficiently study Camden City's finances and what it is currently spending in total for its existing force. All elements of the plan

need to be studied further. What is clear is that public safety is the primary concern in Camden. We are committed to working with the city to enhance Public Safety.”

The full plan, complete with organizational charts and suggested staffing levels and titles, is attached and is available online at www.camdencounty.com.

Main points to remember are:

- Camden City would have to pay for this force if it decides to go forward
- Joining is a completely voluntary option
- No other Camden County municipalities will contribute to the cost for Camden City
- No police officers or personnel from other communities’ police departments would be called upon to serve in Camden City.
- The organization of this Department is based on current public safety needs for the city of Camden
- The number of officers identified is intended as a goal and model
- Actual staffing numbers will be finalized when the financial information has been fully analyzed.
- Costs will be determined based on current City expenditures on Policing operations (including all costs in addition to salary – e.g., capital expenditures, policing equipment, vehicles, etc.)
- To date, these costs have not been identified. However, the City and County are working collaboratively to quantify them.
- The state has offered its expertise and support in this effort.

John Timoney will be available in a conference call press conference, hosted by Camden County Public Affairs, at 2 p.m. today.

Those reporters who want to participate need to:

Call in at 888-204-5987

Access Code is: 731-2412