



# CITY OF JERSEY CITY

JERRAMIAH T. HEALY, MAYOR

**For Immediate Release**  
**April 27, 2012**

**Contact: Stan H. Eason**  
**Dir. of Communications**  
**201 547-5808/201 376-2788**

## **13 NEW COPS HIT STREETS** **New Transfers Bring Experience** **That Saves Time and Money**

**JERSEY CITY** – Mayor Jerramiah T. Healy and Police Department Officials will swear in 13 new police officers to the ranks who are not exactly new to law enforcement during ceremonies Monday, April 30, 2012 at City Hall.

The event, scheduled for 3 pm in Council Chambers, enables Jersey City to beef up its ranks that have been reduced to attrition without adding any additional expenditure to the police budget, officials said. The group of officers is made up of officers from Hudson and Middlesex County's Sheriff's departments and the Paterson Police Department.

"This class of officers presents us with a tremendous opportunity to immediately put 13 new cops on the street and avoid waiting the 6-8 months if they were rookies going to their first police academy," Healy said. "And, our city benefits from the experience these officers already have under their belts at a tremendous savings to the tax payers."

Since January five senior officers and supervisors at the top end of their respective pay scales have retired. The 13 new officers, entering at entry level salaries of \$45,578, will absorb the cost already budget for the (5) five retirees without any additional cost, a slightly better two-for-1 exchange.

"We're proud that during these difficult economic times that due to the shared sacrifice between the Police Unions and the city that while other municipalities are striving to maintain staffing levels, we on the other hand are now able to hire officers to replace the ranks that have been depleted through attrition," said Police Chief Tom Comey.

*Continued*

**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR**

Additionally, Jersey City will immediately realize an estimated \$32,500 to \$ 52,000 in training costs that would cover the six-month academy each new police recruit must graduate from to be a sworn law enforcement officer. Since the new 13 officers, whose experience ranges between two-to-seven years law enforcement service, have already graduated an academy, they only need to participate in an accelerated two-week field training program before they are eligible for duty.

A handful of the new hires benefit from a state law called the *Rice Bill*, named after State Senator Ron Rice of Essex County. The bill allows for officers, despite their lack of residency in a given municipality, to be hired statewide after being laid off by other municipalities due to its economic strife.

“These officers are experienced. Coming here will be a benefit to the officers who can now continue their chosen careers and their added presence will surely be a benefit to the citizens of Jersey City,” Comey said.///