For Immediate Release

Six-month Report Shows Increase in Crime

The Uniform Crime Report for the first six months of the year shows an overall rise in reported crime in the city of Springfield. According to the Springfield Police Department, there was nearly a 7 percent increase in reported crime during the first six months of the year. The Uniform Crime Report compares the first six months of 2009 to January through June 2010.

The increase was driven by a 27 percent increase in aggravated assaults compared to the same reporting period a year ago. The report also indicates a significant increase in the number of murder cases worked by the department. Last year police worked three murders, compared to eight from January to June this year. The number of forcible rapes dropped just more than 8 percent, while the number of robberies reported in the city dropped from 129 to 128.

Property crimes increased just more than 6 percent during the first six months. Larceny and theft rose over 9 percent, while motor vehicle thefts increased almost 8 percent. There was a significant decline in the number of burglaries reported between January and June. Last year 1,125 burglaries were reported during the first six months. The number decreased by 95 this year and resulted in an 8 percent decline. The department’s clearance rate for burglaries improved from approximately 16 percent to more than 29 percent during the rating period. However, the overall clearance rate for property crimes declined just more than 1 percent. The clearance rate for crimes against persons improved less than 1 percent.

Media Contact: Lt. David Millsap, phone: (417) 864-1751