



333 W. Fort Street, Ste. 1230 • Detroit, Michigan 48226-3150
(313) 963-3660 • Fax: (313) 963-4668 • www.mayorstime.com

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SUMMER INTERNSHIPS BRING DETROIT YOUTH CLOSER TO PUBLIC SAFETY CAREERS

Detroit, June 7, 2005 -- The 150 students selected to be the first summer interns in the Mayor's Time Public Safety Academy (MTPSA) received details of the eight-week internships during an orientation program at Engine 9 Ladder 6 Fire House today. The orientation and a press conference were led by the MTPSA partners – Detroit Police, Fire, EMS Departments, Wayne County Community College District, Detroit Public Schools and Mayor's Time. The Detroit Water Department also is participating in the summer internship program.

Selected from among well over 500 applicants, the young Detroit residents will learn some of the skills needed for entry into public safety careers. The summer internships are an addition to the Mayor's Time Public Safety Academy, which was offered to all Detroit Public School students at either Randolph or Golightly Career and Technical Center for the first time in the 2004-2005 school year.

Students begin the three-year MTPSA curriculum in the 10th grade. Upon completion of the program, they will be on their way to careers as police officers, firefighters, emergency medical personnel, homeland and private security officers. They also can receive 12 credits at Wayne County Community College District towards their associate's degree.

During the school year, the approximately 60 students enrolled in the MTPSA spent half of the school day at their regular high schools, and the other half at one of the career-technical centers. A curriculum was developed collaboratively by the partners specifically for the MTPSA; several members of the police, fire and emergency medical services departments are certified teachers. In addition to learning technical skills and the culture of the public safety professions, students receive life-skills training such as health, nutrition, self-esteem, etiquette, conflict resolution, public speaking and study skills.

The Mayor's Time Public Safety Academy summer internships are funded by a grant to Mayor's Time by the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

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Contact: Linda H. Lee, Communications Director, Mayor's Time
(313) 963-3660 x. 270

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