

Memorandum

City of Lawrence

Police Department

To: David L. Corliss, City Manager
From: Tarik Khatib, Chief of Police
Cc: Diane Stoddard, Assistant City Manager
Cynthia Wagner, Assistant City Manager
Date: June 8, 2011
Re: Benchmark City Survey

As we examined standards of measurement over the last year for a variety of performance and demographic categories for the Lawrence Police Department, staff discovered the Benchmark City Survey.

This annual survey, which is compiled by the Overland Park Police Department, has been in existence since 1997. Today, there are 28 participating agencies from around the nation. A large percentage of the agencies are clustered in the mid-states region making Lawrence's inclusion in the survey more relevant. The original concept as described by Overland Park Chief John Douglass was to include cities "like us" in terms of proximity to major metropolitan areas and communities where businesses were looking to locate.

In 2010, the Lawrence Police Department sought inclusion in the survey. I am pleased to announce that the impending publication of the 2010 results marks the first year of our Department's participation. The survey allows participating agencies to examine how their organizations compare with others in several key areas: Demographics, General Information, Crime Statistics, Clearances, and Traffic Safety. Departments can then exchange information with each other concerning initiatives and programs which appear to have lead to a particular agency's success in an area. I encourage everyone to examine the documents and welcome discussions and questions concerning the data.