

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 25, 2011

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CHIEF LANSDOWNE HOLDS FIRST EMPLOYEE MEETING TO DISCUSS SEVEN-POINT STRATEGY

(San Diego, CA) Today Chief William Lansdowne held his first department meeting to discuss his seven-point strategy to address officer misconduct. The meeting was held in a large meeting room at Qualcomm Stadium and was attended by over 300 members of the SDPD. The Chief spoke for about 30 minutes and then took direct questions from those present. The Chief stated that he clearly recognized that the vast majority of the employees for the SDPD were conducting themselves with honor and integrity and that it was only a small handful of officers who have brought discredit upon the entire department. The Chief promised to concentrate on and develop a larger wellness component within the department. This was the first of 13 such meetings where the Chief will discuss the new plan and make clear his expectations for all employees.

In addition to meeting with the entire department, the Chief also promised to create a Confidential Complaint Hotline. The hotline went operational last week and over 100 calls have since come in. Each of those calls has been reviewed by Chief Lansdowne. Many have been referred for follow-up when appropriate.

Implementation of the other points in the Chief's plan has also begun.

- A review of the Department Discipline Manual is currently underway. The review is expected to be completed by September 2011.
- Staffing in the Internal Affairs Unit is to be expanded by 4 sergeants. The additional staffing will be in place on May 28, 2011.
- Supervisor Training in the area of Ethics, Leadership and our Early Identification and Intervention System will begin in June and is expected to be completed by the end of September 2011.
- A review of the Department's Use of Force training and tactics is scheduled to be completed by September 2011.
- A wellness assessment will be added to the department's resource library within the next two weeks and supervisors will begin to discuss this with each of their employees. The assessment will then become part of each employee's annual evaluation process.

Chief Lansdowne and the entire leadership of the San Diego Police Department want the citizens we serve, as well as the members of the Department, to have the highest level of confidence in our employees.

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