

**JOPLIN**



## Press Release

**Contact Person: Cpl. Brian Henderson**

**Date: August 29, 2012**

**Subject: Joplin's first certified Crime Free Multi-Housing property**

The Joplin Police Department is pleased to announce a ribbon cutting ceremony with the Joplin Area Chamber of Commerce, for North Park Apartments. North Park Apartments will become the first certified property with the Joplin Police Department's Crime Free Multi Housing program. North Park went through a strenuous evaluation process to achieve this status. The Joplin Police Department is working with other properties and hopes to have others certified soon.

The Crime Free Multi-Housing Program is a state-of-the-art crime prevention program designed to reduce crime, drugs, and gangs on apartment properties. This program was successfully developed at the Mesa Arizona Police Department in 1992.

The program consists of three phases that must be completed under the supervision of the Joplin Police Department's Crime Free Multi-Housing Officers.

The overall goals of the program are to:

- ✓ Establish better communication with property owners and managers.
- ✓ Establish a cohesive working relationship with property managers.

- ✓ Identify criminal activity in the complex.
- ✓ Aid management in identifying and documenting problems.
- ✓ Emphasize the importance of good tenant screening.
- ✓ Stress the importance of good security and crime prevention measures.
- ✓ Reduce calls for service for the police department.
- ✓ Improve the overall quality of life at the complex.

The media is invited to attend the ceremony on Tuesday September 4<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm. The event will be held at the North Park Apartment office, which is located at 3502 Newman Rd. Officers will be available to give an interview about the Crime Free Multi-Housing Program. Media will also have an opportunity to speak with Apartment Managers about the program.

**For further information contact Cpl. Brian Henderson at 417-627-8880.**