



*Office of Mayor Lawrence J. Morrissey
LEADING BOLDLY, WORKING TOGETHER*

MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

CONTACT INFORMATION:

**Kimberly Bruce
Strategic Communications Manager**

January 15, 2016

Phone: 779-348-7331

E-mail: Kimberly.Bruce@rockfordil.gov

Rockford Police to Debut New Look

ROCKFORD, IL – For the first time in decades, the Rockford Police Department will look different beginning Sunday, January 17, 2016 as it completes its transition to navy blue uniforms. The change is part of a national shift of police departments that have reinstated the use of standard navy blue uniforms.

Police uniforms are one of the most distinguishable characteristics of the department. The change to navy blue uniforms offer a more consistent, professional appearance, the ability to conceal stains and wear and tear, and serves as a morale boost for the department as all sworn officers will be outfitted the same regardless of rank. Representation of command staff is indicated by bars or stars on the collar.

One of the noted changes on the long sleeve uniforms is the insignia on the left cuff which represents years of service for each officer. Each hash mark signifies five years of service.

Though some local private security firms wear similarly dark colored uniforms, Rockford Police Department patches are prominently displayed on the left and right shoulders of all shirts.

The \$40,000 cost of the change comes out of the uniform budget. Officers will be issued three long sleeve and three short sleeve uniforms.

###

Like our Facebook page at: www.facebook.com/RockfordIllinoisPoliceDepartment

