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MAYOR REDD SWEARS-IN 19 POLICE OFFICERS

CAMDEN – One month after rehiring 55 police officers and 31 firefighters who were laid-off on January 18, 2011, Mayor Dana L. Redd today swore-in an additional 19 police officers. The rehiring of the 19 police officers was made possible through a \$4.3 million U.S. Department of Justice COPS Hiring Program (CHP) grant.

“With today’s swearing-in, my Administration, working with our Congressional delegation and the Governor’s Office, has been able to rehire a total of 74 police officers,” Mayor Redd said. “This means that more officers are back on the streets patrolling our neighborhoods and business districts. We will continue to explore all and any funding opportunities that will assist our police department to protect our residents and City.”

Mayor Redd was joined by Congressman Rob Andrews, Assemblyman Angel Fuentes, Camden City Council President Frank Moran, Councilman Luis Lopez, Councilwoman Marilyn Torres, representatives from Senators Robert Menendez and Frank Lautenberg, Camden Police Chief John Scott Thomson, and Acting Fire Chief Michael Harper.

“We are thankful that today we are bringing back 19 of our best and brightest to serve and protect our streets so that our city can get the support that is so critical to its revitalization,” said Congressman Andrews. “While there’s still work to be done to restore public safety lay-offs, the spirit of this great city is rewarded today when we swear in these dedicated men and women whose efforts will help to city achieve stability.”

The COPS Hiring Program is a competitive grant program that provides funding directly to state, local and tribal law enforcement agencies nationwide to hire and/or rehire full-time sworn officers to increase their community policing capacity and crime prevention efforts. For more information regarding the CHP, please visit the U.S. Department of Justice website at www.cops.usdoj.gov/.

Mayor Redd also swore in two firefighters.

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