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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
DATE: July 11, 2010

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**MAYOR REDD, SENATOR MENENDEZ & CONGRESSMAN ANDREWS ANNOUNCE
THE COMPLETION OF PHASE I OF THE CITY'S "EYE IN THE SKY" PROGRAM**

CAMDEN – Mayor Dana L. Redd, joined by U.S. Senator Robert Menendez and Congressman Rob Andrews, today announced the completion of phase I of the City's "Eye in the Sky" camera policing program.

"I am truly thankful for the support and assistance Senator Menendez and Congressman Andrews have provided to ensure Camden was able to get the necessary funding for this valuable crime fighting technology," **Mayor Redd said**. "The 'Eye in the Sky' project is yet another critical tool that will enable our police officers to combat criminal activity in Camden and make our residents feel safe. I look forward to moving on to the second phase of the project and eventually having the entire city integrated into the 'Eye in the Sky' system."

"Technology can help police departments make neighborhoods safer effectively and economically," said Senator Menendez. "Would be criminals are now on notice that the Camden police will be watching."

"This state-of-the-art technology, coupled with our devoted men and women in uniform, will directly contribute to the City's revitalization, making Camden a safer place to live, work, and study," said Congressman Andrews. "In order for our City to bounce back, we need to provide our brave officers with the best tools available in public safety and with this new technology we can improve the department's presence so that every street corner is being watched and protected."

Also in attendance for the announcement and tour were Assemblymen Angel Fuentes and Gilbert "Whip" Wilson, and various resident leaders.

In January of this year, CIBER, Inc. was awarded a contract from the State of New Jersey to design, engineer, and deploy a state-of-the-art surveillance system and communications network project for the City of Camden. The project enhances our law enforcement efforts and provides safe neighborhoods for residents, visitors, and businesses in the City. Once the "Eye in the Sky" program became operational, the Police Department has been able to utilize the technology to make various arrests.

(more)

Police officers are now able to view and control cameras from computers in their cars as well as at police headquarters. Acting as an extra set of eyes, the cameras are expected to help in the overall effort to reduce crime

Other crime fighting technologies such as the Mobile Command Center and the Shot Spotter program, which are currently being utilized by the Camden Police Department, were also highlighted.

The fully equipped Mobile Command Center, which was acquired through a Federal grant, has been operating since October of 2010. The Mobile Command Center is the first 24/7 operation of its kind in New Jersey. By enabling police personnel to evaluate in real-time the state of public safety, the department is able to direct the most effective and efficient deployment of resources. Staffed with technical and operational personnel at all times during deployment, the Mobile Command Center is self supportive and equipped with state of the art crime fighting tools.

Our Shot Spotter program is a deployment of specialized microphones placed in strategic locations based on historical gun violence. These specialized microphones are tuned to differentiate between gunshots and other noises and can pin-point the location a gun was discharged within a very small area. All gunshots are then filtered through a computer program for accuracy and plotted in mapping software.

After the launch, Senator Menendez also reiterated his call for the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF) to assist Camden law enforcement in investigating recent suspicious fires in abandoned buildings across the city. Last week Menendez sent a [letter](#) to Kenneth Melson, the acting Director of ATF on this issue.

Public safety has remained a top priority for Mayor Redd. To date, Mayor Redd was able to rehire 74 police officers and 31 firefighters who were laid-off on January 18, 2011 by working with federal and state officials.

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