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**STATEMENTS FROM MAYOR REDD, FREEHOLDER DIRECTOR CAPPELLI,  
CONGRESSMAN ANDREWS, SENATOR NORCROSS, AND ASSEMBLYMEN FUENTES AND  
WILSON REGARDING MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR REGIONALIZATION**

**CAMDEN** – As the City of Camden celebrates the 28<sup>th</sup> Annual National Night Out, Mayor Dana L. Redd, Camden County Freeholder Director Louis Cappelli, Jr., Congressman Robert Andrews, Senator Donald Norcross, and Assemblymen Angel Fuentes and Gilbert “Whip” Wilson today issued the following statements regarding a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the State Department of Community Affairs (DCA), the City of Camden, and Camden County. The MOU is being presented to City Council during their caucus today for their vote and approval to proceed with a final vote at August 9<sup>th</sup> City Council meeting.

“No matter where you live, National Night Out serves as reminder that residents from across the nation share a common belief and principle – that criminal activity is not welcomed in our neighborhoods and we will fight to keep our communities and families safe,” Mayor Redd said. “It is because of this same reason I have remained committed to exploring all realistic and cost-effective options that will enable us to enhance our public safety obligations. That is why I have agreed to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with the State and Camden County to move forward with the planning stages of a regionalized police force. To move Camden forward, we must secure our City – house by house, street by street, neighborhood by neighborhood.”

“We welcome the opportunity to work with Mayor Redd to make the City of Camden a safer place,” said Freeholder Director Louis Cappelli, Jr.

“I commend the leadership of the City, the County and the State to support a new approach to police protection in the City - an approach similar to proposals now under consideration by the county Board of Freeholders and endorsed in a bipartisan initiative by Governor Christie and State Senate President Steve Sweeney,” Congressman Andrews said.

“We commend and support Mayor Redd, Freeholder Director Cappelli, and the DCA for their willingness to work in partnership to move regionalization forward,” said Senator Norcross and Assemblymen Fuentes and Wilson. “As the process begins, we will look forward to assisting in any way we can.”

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