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## **Pennsylvania Capitol Police Open Downtown Harrisburg Substation**

New location will enhance ability to serve increased number of state workers in downtown area

**Harrisburg, PA** – State Department of General Services Secretary Curt Topper and Pennsylvania Capitol Police Deputy Superintendent Kevin Brown were joined by Bradley Jones, CEO and President of Harristown Enterprises Inc., to officially open a new Pennsylvania Capitol Police Substation at 333 Market Street in Harrisburg.

The new location will allow the agency to better serve the increased number of state workers in the downtown area as a result of the influx of more than 750 employees who were moved into Strawberry Square earlier this year.

“Through the relocation of more than 750 employees from the former Harrisburg State Hospital Grounds into the former Verizon Tower, the Wolf Administration solidified its commitment to helping to revitalize downtown Harrisburg and the local economy,” Topper said. “The increased number of state employees brought into the downtown area also gave us the opportunity to evaluate our own operations in terms of the services the Pennsylvania Capitol Police provides. The establishment of this substation was seen as an immediate way to address that issue.”

The Pennsylvania Capitol Police determined it would be in the best interests of state employees and visitors to state – occupied buildings to have a police substation located on the ground level at 333 Market Street less than 200 yards away from the three buildings – Strawberry Square, 333 Market Street and Rachel Carson – that now house 4,200 employees. The substation will enable the force to maintain a police presence, respond more quickly to calls in the area. A residual effect of that presence will ultimately result in making the surrounding community a safer place to visit, work and live.

The substation will be open on a daily basis during peak employee traffic hours of 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. and sporadically at other points throughout the day. Moving forward the Pennsylvania Capitol Police hope to have the resources to expand the hours for when the substation is staffed.

Pennsylvania Capitol Police Deputy Superintendent Kevin Brown noted the many improvements that have taken place in the agency including: the recent reaccreditation of the force through the Pennsylvania Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission and the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies; the carrying of the life-saving opioid overdose reversal drug, Naloxone by officers; the expansion of the K-9 unit to a total of 4 explosive detection k-9s and one patrol/narcotics K-9 and the nearly \$8 million Capitol Complex Security upgrade project.

Brown also pointed to the partnership with Harristown Enterprises Inc., as a major factor in the establishment of the substation, which Harristown Enterprises Inc., President and CEO Bradley Jones spoke about at the event.

“We at Harristown are very excited to welcome this sub-station to the downtown,” Jones noted. “Our customers and visitors will be greatly benefitted by this increased Capitol Police presence and we look forward to a long partnership with the Department of General Services and the Pennsylvania Capitol Police on this wonderful new addition to downtown Harrisburg.”

The Pennsylvania Capitol Police is an accredited law enforcement agency with full arrest powers that investigates all reported crimes within its jurisdiction of state-owned properties and buildings in Harrisburg, Philadelphia and Scranton. The force maintains a 24 hours a day/7 days a week presence in Harrisburg where they also provide assistance to the city of Harrisburg Police Department and other surrounding local law enforcement agencies.

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