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News Release

*For Immediate Release*

## **Police Department publishes fourth quarter safety report**

Although 2013 saw an overall increase in crime by 3 percent, a [Quarterly Public Safety Report](#) (pdf) issued by Springfield Police Department Feb. 18, showed an overall decrease by 2 percent for the last three months of the year. This is in comparison to the crime statistics of the last three months of 2012.

"This is a trend we hope to see continue and we will keep you updated more on a regular basis through these reports," said Police Chief Paul Williams.

To increase awareness about public safety issues in our community, SPD began publishing the Quarterly Public Safety Report in October. In addition to providing crime statistics, the report provides information on innovative programs and highlights of crime prevention strategies.

"We also hope to inspire citizens to become a part of the solution to make Springfield an even safer place to live, work and play," Williams said.

The number of stolen vehicles increased in the last quarter of 2013, compared with the same quarter last year. At least 75 of those stolen vehicles, however, had the keys left inside. SPD will continue educational efforts to remind citizens of this problem.

The Quarterly Public Safety Report also featured a new program, called Apartment Watch, teaching apartment managers and staff how to be the "eyes and ears of the police".

For more information about the Quarterly Public Safety Report, or crime prevention efforts, please call 417-2113 or visit [www.springfieldmo.gov/spd](http://www.springfieldmo.gov/spd).

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Release authorized by: Chief Paul Williams