

October 2006

## Boston Police Numbers Continue to Rise

### *Academy classes offset attrition*

With the graduation of 60 recruits from the Boston Police Academy on October 6, 2006, the total number of sworn officers increased to 2,055. That brings the Police Department to its highest level of sworn officers since January of 2003 when the level was at 2,138. An earlier class of 58 officers graduated in May. These two classes have offset attrition to produce a net increase of 46 Boston police officers over the 2,009 officers at the beginning of 2006. A class of 90 to 100 recruits will begin training at the Police Academy in late November. Those recruits are expected to add more than 70 officers to the force in May of 2007. Sworn officers are all officers who have graduated from the Academy and do not include any recruits.

The number of sworn officers does not reflect all officers performing police services since about 10% of those officers are not available for full active duty for a variety of reasons. Of the 2,055 sworn officers as of October 10, 2006, only 1,863 were available for duty because 192 officers (9.3%) were not available for reasons of injury (83), permanent or temporary light duty (72), extended sick leave (17), and other factors. Even so, the number of officers available for duty in October is the highest it has been since July 2005 when the Research Bureau first started to collect this data. In that time, officers unavailable for duty ranged from 9.3% to 12% of the sworn force.

### Boston Police Strength 2006

