



# NEWS RELEASE

*Paul M. Tiernan, Chief of Police*

June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2012

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**SUBJECT: Newark PD Mourns the Loss of Retired K9 “Paco”**

Newark Police are mourning the loss of retired police K9 “Paco” who passed away on Sunday, June 10<sup>th</sup> with his handler, Cpl. Christopher Jones and family by his side. K9 Paco was diagnosed with Bi-Lateral Hip Dysplasia and was retired from service in September of 2011. K9 “Paco’s” health worsened recently and after consulting with Dr. Miki King of New London Veterinary Clinic, the decision was made by Cpl. Jones that K9 “Paco” needed to be put to rest.

K9 “Paco” entered into service with the Newark Police Department in August of 2006 after being acquired from one of the nation’s foremost suppliers of law enforcement canines, Vohne Liche Kennels of Denver, Indiana. K9 “Paco’s” entry into service marked the first time in more than two decades that Newark PD utilized police canines for service. K9 “Paco” was trained by the Delaware State Police Canine Unit.

K9 “Paco” was known for his friendly demeanor and quickly became a community favorite, often seen surrounded by school children at community events and demonstrations. Those who did not have the same appreciation for K9 “Paco” were the criminals he encountered. During his career K9 “Paco” handled over 1,500 complaints, 400 burglar alarms, conducted over 100 tracks and 700 searches. K9 “Paco” was responsible for the seizure of over \$150,000 in drug tainted US Currency, 30 pounds of marijuana, several firearms and two vehicles used for the transportation of narcotics.

K9 “Paco” was recognized by the United States Police Canine Association (USPCA) as a nationally certified narcotics detection dog. Cpl. Jones and K9 “Paco” were recognized in 2008 by the USPCA for the fastest completion of the timed certification course by a first time participant.

The Newark Police Department would like to thank the numerous businesses and members of the community who assisted with the implementation of the Newark Police Canine Program and who continue their support today.

*The Newark Police Department affirms that all defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.*

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K-9 TEAM

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