

HENNEPIN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

News Release



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Hennepin County Sheriff attends international FBI counterterrorism training

November 19, 2010 (Minneapolis) – Hennepin County Sheriff Rich Stanek is attending an international FBI training program, Leadership in Counterterrorism (LinCT). LinCT brings together law enforcement partners from the U.K., Ireland, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and the United States.

A select number of law enforcement representatives, approximately a dozen nationwide, are chosen to participate in the comprehensive coursework, created with Harvard University. It's designed to develop greater cooperation and communication between the FBI, local law enforcement, and international counterterrorism leaders.

"This was an exceptional opportunity to build partnerships with the FBI and law enforcement counterparts worldwide," said Hennepin County Sheriff Rich Stanek, "Threats of domestic and international terrorism make it imperative that local law enforcement and federal authorities work together to develop the contingency plans and identify resources needed to prevent and respond to these public safety emergencies."

Sheriff Stanek is attending the leadership program along with the Special Agent in Charge of the Minneapolis FBI office. The program was designed to pair an FBI representative with a local law enforcement counterpart, who attend the program as a team and develop strategies to address specific emerging circumstances in their respective regions.

Such partnerships are essential to public safety given the most recent analysis of likely terrorism threats. The U.S. National Counter Terrorism Center has indicated that future attacks directed by large, organized terror groups overseas are less likely. Instead the potential threat has now shifted to less organized, locally based individuals who may carry out lower-level incidents with greater frequency.

Sheriff Stanek has prior experience working on counterterrorism issues. He serves on the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Interagency Threat Assessment and Coordination Group (ITACG) which, through a Presidential directive, allows for the sharing of terrorism-related information. He is a member of the national Criminal Intelligence Coordinating Council (CICC), advising the U.S. Attorney General and U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

(Sheriff's biography is available on the HCSO website under the Home tab at www.hennepinsheriff.org)
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