



Office of the Senior Vice President
Student Life and Administrative Services

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 4, 2008

**Former Philadelphia Police Captain and Chief of Police
for Nazareth Borough Hired as
Drexel's First Director of Police Operations**

Drexel University has taken a leap forward in creating a University police department with the hiring of veteran Philadelphia Police commander and the former Nazareth Borough Chief of Police, **Michael Sinclair** as director of police operations. In his new position he will be responsible for overseeing the day to day operations of the Drexel University Police Department which has been officially recognized as a law enforcement agency in Pennsylvania by the Office of the Attorney General and has also received endorsements from state, city and community officials. The addition of the police department adds another dimension to the University's Department of Public Safety security program which services the campus and neighboring community.

"We were looking for someone who had command level experience, particularly within an urban setting," said **James Tucker**, senior vice president for Student Life and Administrative Services. "Due to his experience as a former Philadelphia Police Captain and most recently as a Chief of Police, Michael brings to Drexel impressive knowledge of modern policing methods as well as first-hand experience working with governmental and university police departments."

Sinclair comes to Drexel with 30 years of experience in law enforcement. He served with the Philadelphia Police Department for 29 years, commanding special units such as the Victim Services Unit and Narcotics Field Unit. Sinclair was also the commanding officer of the 22nd and 18th police districts and retired as Captain of the Southwest Detective Division which encompasses the Drexel University, University of Pennsylvania and University of the Sciences campuses. Upon retiring from the Philadelphia Police Department he was hired as chief of police for Nazareth Borough, Northampton County. As chief of police he was responsible for managing all patrol and investigative functions, instituting community policing concepts, increasing police visibility and response, and reorganizing administrative and operational procedures to provide better public safety to the business and residential community.

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“During my law enforcement and security career, I had the pleasure work with Michael on many occasions”, said **Domenic Ceccanecchio**, senior associate vice president for Public Safety. “He is a real professional and I am fortunate to have someone with Michael’s integrity, practical experience and training onboard to assist me in building and leading the new Drexel Police Department.”

“I look forward to advancing Drexel’s Public Safety initiatives with the development of the Drexel Police Department by providing the highest level of community oriented policing, crime prevention and response services possible” said **Michael Sinclair**, director for police operations. “My immediate attention will be to build the police force with the hiring of professional officers, ensure that they are properly trained and certified, and to develop a strategic plan for police deployment that will compliment the current public safety efforts.”

Sinclair will officially join the Drexel community on September 8, 2008. He will report directly to the Senior Associate Vice President for Public Safety within the division of student life and administrative services. In addition to overseeing the daily operations of the Department that within two years will consist of 28 to 30 uniformed officers, he will also be responsible for collaborating with other law enforcement agencies and the surrounding community.

Sinclair has a M.S. in Public Safety from St. Joseph’s University, B.S. in Criminal Justice from Temple University, and is an ACT 120 Municipal Police Officer certified by the Municipal Police Officers Education and Training Commission.

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PHOTO: Michael J. Sinclair, M.S., Director of Police Operations,
Drexel University Department of Public Safety

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