WINTER HAVEN POLICE

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Date: April 23, 2014
Time: 10 A.M.
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WINTER HAVEN – The City of Winter Haven is proud to announce the crime rate for 2013 dropped 17.4 percent to a historic low of 4.9 – the lowest in more than 17 years!

A 12.2 percent reduction in violent crimes was realized from 2012 – 2013. Violent crimes include murder, rape, robbery and aggravated assault. Non-violent crimes, which include burglary, larceny and vehicle theft was reduced by 13.0 percent. Overall index crime for the City of Winter Haven decreased by 12.9 percent, bringing the Crime Rate to a historic low of 4.9 crimes per 100 residents. Simply put, these reductions have resulted in 265 fewer victims within the City of Winter Haven in 2013.

Specifically, homicides were down by 60 percent, burglaries dropped by 27.8 percent, robberies were down by 22 percent with aggravated assaults reducing down by 10 percent. Motor vehicle thefts were slashed by 21.4 percent.

"We are extremely optimistic about the crime reduction we are seeing as we move forward with Winter Haven's Crime Suppression Model," said Chief Gary Hester. "As our dedicated members continue to partner with our citizens to focus on crime prevention strategies, we are confident our crime will continue to decrease."

The Department's Crime Suppression Model, which was fully implemented in March 2012, focuses on strategies of preventing and suppressing crime, and is paying off as the crime numbers indicate. "I am extremely proud of our members' hard work and dedication to combat crime in our community," Hester said.

- 30 -