

NEWS RELEASE: July 22, 2011

**Safety & Justice Roundtable Two-Year Update presentation Monday**

The City of Springfield and Greene County will present a two-year status update to the Safety & Justice Roundtable Monday, July 25, 1:30 p.m., in the Greene County Archives-Elections Center, 1126 Boonville Ave., Springfield.

The update will outline the city and county's accomplishments on the Roundtable's recommendations and identify issues not yet addressed. The update will also show how increases in criminal activity, jail population, felony case filings and child abuse and neglect rates are impacting the community's public safety and criminal justice system.

The Safety & Justice Roundtable is an 18-member citizens task force formed by the Greene County Commission and Springfield City Council in December 2007, charged with developing a comprehensive understanding of the community's criminal justice and public safety system. The group was asked to identify and prioritize needs within the system and recommend possible solutions for those needs.

The group presented its Final Report July 22, 2009, and included a list of Top Seven Priorities as well as individual department recommendations. Since the report was issued, Springfield and Greene County have made marked progress on the Top Seven Priorities, including addressing the Police-Fire Pension Fund and enhancing inter-agency communication and cooperation. However, the jail population continues to be a problem, and many crucial staffing and facilities needs have not yet been addressed.

The Roundtable asked Springfield and Greene County to provide periodic updates on their recommendations.

Copies of the Two-Year Update will be distributed at the meeting. The Safety & Justice Roundtable Final Report is available online at [www.greenecountymo.org/info/file/07-22-09.pdf](http://www.greenecountymo.org/info/file/07-22-09.pdf) and [www.springfieldmo.gov/pdfs/sjrExecSum.pdf](http://www.springfieldmo.gov/pdfs/sjrExecSum.pdf)

For more information, call Jenny Fillmer Edwards, Greene County Public Information Officer, at 417-829-6019 or 417-224-5510.

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