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**NEWSLETTER / NEWS RELEASE
From the Office of the Mayor**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DECEMBER 1, 2017

**MAYOR SCHNEIDER ATTENDS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE OF METRO ST. LOUIS
MEETING URGING OTHER LEAGUE MEMBERS TO ENDORSE AND PASS “LAW
ENFORCEMENT BEST PRACTICES AGREEMENT”**

**Municipal League of Metro St. Louis, St. Louis Area City Managers Association Adopt
Language Prepared by the St. Louis Area Police Chiefs Association**

At the Thursday, November 30 St. Louis County Municipal League meeting that was held at Berkeley City Hall, Mayor Schneider urged other League membership members that were in attendance to endorse and approve the language, proposed by the St. Louis Area Police Chiefs Association (SLAPCA) adopting best practices for law enforcement agencies across the region. As a result the vote was unanimous for the League to endorse the Law Enforcement Best Practices Agreement which was crafted by SLAPCA. This mandate requires all League members' police departments to begin a process of certification before January 1, 2019, with the goal of completion by January 1, 2022.

In September of 2016 the League started meeting with SLAPCA to develop a set of best practices for St. Louis area police departments. The first part of this year, SLAPCA established a subcommittee to work toward developing a policy or set of standards. The committee was chaired by Chief Tim Lowery. The committee included chiefs from St. Louis County, St. Charles County, the St. Louis Area City Managers (SLACMA) and Municipal League Executive Director Pat Kelly.

Best practices required under this agreement include having written policies on: appropriate use of force; handling crises intervention team; bias-free policing; vehicle operation, accidents, and pursuits; investigation of officer-involved shooting incidents; in-custody deaths; and citizen complaint process and internal affairs. All officers must be Peace Officers Standards and Training certified and licensed, and detailed background checks will be conducted.

Chief Tim Lowery the Chairman of the Best Practices Committee added, “It is the intent of our membership to assist any agency in meeting this level of police services, with the ultimate goal of accreditation/certification of all police departments in the St. Louis area.”

Mayor Schneider added, “I would like to congratulate Chief Tim Lowery and the members of the committee for an outstanding job of addressing an important issue that will have a positive impact on the safety of the region. The goal of 100 percent accreditation for all police agencies in the area raises the bar and sets the example for the rest of the country to follow.”