



# Middlesex Sheriff's Office

**Sheriff Peter J. Koutoujian**

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## **Sheriff Koutoujian and Mayor Gary Christenson Highlight Mutual Aid Partnership Benefits**

Pair visited with Youth Public Safety Academy cadets, toured recent CWP work

Middlesex Sheriff Peter J. Koutoujian was in Malden today, where he was joined by Mayor Gary Christenson to showcase the benefits of the mutual aid partnership between the Middlesex Sheriff's Office and the City of Malden.

The Sheriff and Mayor first joined with a group of youngsters participating in the Middlesex Sheriff's Office Youth Public Safety Academy (YPSA) program to get a first-hand look at the work of the Malden Police Department. The pair then toured two areas of Government Center Plaza where Middlesex Sheriff's Office inmates taking part in the Community Work Program (CWP) had completed work just before Independence Day.

"We have a great partnership with Mayor Christenson's office and it was great to see up-close how the relationship is thriving here in Malden," said Sheriff Koutoujian.

On their tour of Government Center Plaza Mayor Christenson explained how the CWP crew had cleared brush along the Exchange Street entrance to the plaza, as well as on the Pleasant Street side of the complex. Christenson said the work done by the Middlesex Sheriff's Office inmates makes the entrances more inviting and now will allow the City to create a mural welcoming people to Malden Square.

"I was proud to show Sheriff Koutoujian the areas that have been cleaned up by his Community Work Program crew," said Mayor Christenson, "this valuable program helps offenders give back to the community and Malden is grateful for the Sheriff's assistance."

Malden has saved an estimated \$15,000 this year thanks to CWP crews and more work is planned before the end of the summer. The Sheriff's Office estimates CWP crews saved Malden \$56,000 and communities across the county \$1.54 million in 2011.

After touring the CWP work site, Sheriff Koutoujian and Mayor Christenson met with a second group of Malden youngsters (ages 9-11) participating in the YPSA camp as they witnessed a K-9 demonstration by Malden Police K-9 Officer Michael Polston and his partner Klaus and Medford Police K-9 Officer Harold MacGilvray and his partner Marco.

A total of 65 children from Malden are enrolled in the week-long camp which will conclude with a graduation ceremony Friday at the Sheriff's Training Academy in Billerica. Over the course of eight weeks, more than 1,700 children from various Middlesex County communities will participate in this year's camp.

"I always love seeing the kids interacting with their local police officers and firefighters," said Koutoujian. "One of the most important aspects of the camp is to give kids the opportunity to get to know their local police officers and firefighters."

“The Sheriff’s Youth Public Safety Academy was the model that inspired my effort to grow our Summer Jobs for Teens program. It’s all about the kids and the next generation of leaders,” said Mayor Christenson. “I thank the Sheriff for his leadership.”

The Sheriff and Mayor concluded the visit with a stop at Baba Supermarket on Pleasant Street where they met with owner Munir Kabbani. The shop is one of the newest in Malden Square.

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