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***** PRESS RELEASE *****

Mayor Fulop Swears in Newest Jersey City Police Officers, 90% Representing Minority Populations as Administration Continues to Grow and Diversify Department

Jersey City Surpasses Goal of 950 Officers Citywide with 28 Graduating Officers; more than 700 officers hired by the Fulop Administration

JERSEY CITY – Mayor Steven M. Fulop joins **Public Safety Director James Shea** and **Police Director Tawana Moody** today at 3 p.m. inside City Hall Council Chambers to swear in the latest graduating class of 28 new Jersey City police officers, with **90% of the class representing minority populations as a result of the administration’s diversity recruitment efforts**. The latest police academy graduates bring the department’s size to over **950 officers** as the Fulop Administration continues to grow the force and enhance public safety.

“Rebuilding the police department has been our top priority to enhance public safety. We set an aggressive goal to reach 950 officers citywide while diversifying the department to better reflect the community. To date, we’re surpassing these goals, and as a result, we’re seeing significant improvements in nearly every aspect of our police department, including expanding public safety and strengthening police/community relations,” said **Mayor Fulop**.

As a result of the Fulop Administration’s diversity recruitment efforts, over 70% of the 740 police officers hired since 2013 have been minorities. Today’s class is 90% minorities, including:

- 14 Hispanic officers
- 8 African American officers
- 3 Caucasian officers
- 2 Middle Eastern officers
- 1 Asian-American officer

When Mayor Fulop took office, there were 779 officers in the department. Utilizing grant and capital funds, the administration has hired hundreds of officers for continued expansion.

“We hired hundreds of police officers since the start of this administration, and as a result, we’ve been able to significantly enhance public safety with increased foot patrols and more visibility in the areas where we need it most,” said **Director Shea**. “As we meet and exceed the goals we originally set for our police department, we remain committed to further building upon our efforts to improve public safety, reduce crime, and increase community relations.”

As they join the force, the new officers are assigned to foot patrols, primarily in the South and West Districts, to enhance visibility and expand community policing.

Media is invited to attend today’s swearing in ceremony inside City Hall Council Chambers at 3 p.m.

All media inquiries should be directed to Kimberly Scalcione at KScalcione@jcnj.org.