CPD BEGINS ROLLOUT OF NEW PATROL VEHICLES
First Batch of Vehicles Among 500 New Patrol Cars to Hit the Street in 2017

CHICAGO - Chicago Police Superintendent Eddie Johnson today deployed the first batch of new police cars to officers as the city continues to invest in the crime fight. The 40 police cars being deployed are the first batch of 550 new Ford Explorers and Interceptors - all of which will hit the streets in Chicago by early next year.

“Providing better service to every Chicagoan and reducing crime means making significant investments in the Department and its officers,” said Superintendent Johnson. “These new vehicles are part of our commitment to give officers the resources they need in the field to make our neighborhoods safer and build stronger community partnerships. I would like to thank Mayor Emanuel and the City Council for their leadership in making this investment possible.”

The vehicles are part of the City’s commitment to support the Department’s efforts to reduce crime and best equip the nearly 1000 new police officers that are being hired over the next two years. The new Ford Explorers and Interceptors will feature a new style of lights to enhance police presence in neighborhoods. They will also be equipped with new mobile computers that for the first time will connect officers to smart crime fighting tools such as gunshot detection systems, real time crime mapping, police databases and electronic crash reporting.

Johnson handed over the keys for the new marked vehicles to police officers at the Department’s facility on West 51st Street and South Wentworth Avenue.

The cars and SUVs will be phased in over the course of this year and built at the Torrence Avenue Ford plant, creating jobs in Chicago. The new cars replace older vehicles that are more than ten years old and have an excess of 100,000 miles, saving the city costs on maintenance.

The rollout is expected to be complete by February 2018.