FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 22, 2012

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Troopers to assist KCPD in stadium traffic control in preparation for All Star events

When the St. Louis Cardinals come to play the Kansas City Royals this weekend, they will inadvertently help local law enforcement prepare for traffic control during the All Star Game.

Kansas City Police will use the games as an opportunity to coordinate with Missouri State Highway Patrol troopers on how to best conduct stadium traffic. Because KCPD will have so many other duties during All Star festivities, police requested the Missouri State Highway Patrol take over traffic management. The I-70 series gives both agencies the perfect opportunity for a dry run.

“These are some of the most highly attended games of the season, so it will be the most similar to what we’ll be seeing during All Star events,” said Major Rich Lockhart, commander of KCPD’s Special Operations Division.

Friday night, KCPD officers and troopers will review the traffic patterns. On Saturday, troopers and officers will conduct traffic together. For Sunday’s game, troopers will be responsible for traffic with KCPD observing. Troopers will handle all traffic control for the All Star events, both on the highways and off.

“When you come into the stadium, you won’t see a KCPD officer flagging you in; it will be a trooper,” Major Lockhart said. “Troopers and their cars have a distinctly different appearance, and we want attendees to be aware of the change.”

Missouri State Highway Patrol Sergeant Collin Stosberg said the Patrol will be providing about 30 troopers, along with five support personnel, a helicopter and two mobile command center vehicles equipped with video uplink to monitor and direct traffic both during the Cardinals series and the All Star events.

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