

# NEWS RELEASE

**Saint Paul Police Department**  
367 Grove Street  
Saint Paul, MN 55101



**John M. Harrington**  
**CHIEF OF POLICE**

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March 31, 2009

## MEDIA EVENT

**WHAT: Child Abuse Prevention Month Kick-Off**

**WHY:** April has been designated as Child Abuse Prevention Month, which will focus on informing people of what they can do to prevent child abuse as well as providing a toll-free number (1-800-CHILDREN) to call for help. During this kick-off event a blue ribbon will be placed around the Police Department flag pole.

The blue ribbon was first used in 1989 by Bonney Finney, a woman in Virginia, who took a stand against child abuse when she tied a blue ribbon to the antenna of her van. The blue ribbon symbolizes the black and blue bruises that covered the bodies of her grandchildren. Today, a blue ribbon is used to represent Child Abuse Awareness.

**WHEN: Wednesday, April 1, 2009, 9:00 a.m.**

**WHERE: Saint Paul Police Headquarters**  
367 Grove Street  
Saint Paul, MN 55101

**WHO:** Saint Paul Police Chief John Harrington  
Minnesota Department of Human Services  
Prevent Child Abuse Minnesota  
Ramsey County Child Services  
Children's Hospital and United Hospital

**Saint Paul Police Department - Committed to Excellence, Ethics, Empathy & Education**