TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
FROM: Patrick Urich, City Manager
DATE: March 22, 2013
SUBJECT: Issues Update

The following are issues related to the City for the weekly Issues Update. If there are additional items you believe should be included, please let me know.

CRIME SUMMARY: Attached is the City of Peoria’s February 2013 Crime Report.

FD HAZMAT PERSONNEL RECEIVE DOMESTIC PREPAREDNESS TRAINING: With the reality of potential terrorist events occurring; domestic preparedness is essential to community safeguarding. The concept of maintaining an all hazard approach is vital when considering the perimeters of mitigation. In the stages associated with preparedness, knowledge is a key ingredient. The Peoria Fire Department was fortunate to have the opportunity to send two personnel from its Office of Hazardous Materials to the OSF Saint Francis Medical Center Weapons of Mass Destruction Radiological Nuclear Responder Operations Course. The knowledge acquired from this awareness level course was immensely invaluable.

The course and materials provided were at no cost to the participating agencies. The content consisted of attaining information on the basics of radiation, possible health effects and hazard identification. It specifically focused on radiological detection, survey instruments, risk-based response, crime scene preservation, proper use of personal protective equipment and radiological incidents. The three day course held March 5, 6 and 7 was conducted at the disaster preparedness warehouse in Bartonville, Illinois.

In 2012 the Peoria Fire Department responded to seven residential structure fires that were caused by juveniles. The fire department hosted the Juvenile Fire Setter Intervention Program at the Vernon “Butch” Gudat Fire Training Academy March 15 and 16. The two-day 16 hour course presented by the Illinois Fire Safety Alliance (ISFA) is designed to provide State of Illinois certification for individuals interested in becoming a Juvenile Fire Setter Intervention Specialist. The primary objective of the IFSA juvenile Fire Setter Intervention Program is to significantly reduce the frequency and severity of fire related incidences caused by youth statewide. Interventionists will operate confidentially within their respective community to provide juvenile fire setters and their families with detailed fire safety education and prevention; as well as agency referral services for extreme risk cases. Participates represented several departments throughout the State of Illinois. Due to this course, the Peoria Fire Department has now added one additional State Certified Juvenile Fire Setter Intervention Specialist to the departmental roster for a combined total of three.