

A Long Hot Summer

This summer has been long and blazing hot and humid. And World Cup/Fan Fest meant more time out in the heat. While temperatures over 100 seem to be over, and evenings now cooler, the foreseeable future weather prediction is of highs in the 90s and upper 80s!

So keeping cool becomes a full-time job for all of you, whose duties often demand that you be out on the streets; taking information at an accident or crime scene; working to resolve an argument in someone's backyard or chasing a suspect who doesn't want to be caught. Police work is often hot and sweaty work. And those protective vests, which are essential for officer safety, aren't designed to keep you cool and comfortable.

But through it all you "keep your cool" – you work to deescalate – to mediate – to resolve all manner of disputes – helping people who struggle with the hot weather to calm down and cool down. You keep your cool, in spite of being tired and short-handed when often the people around them have lost theirs.

To all of you this hot, hot summer I pray, "Thanks be to God for you." Thanks be to God for your courage and dedication and tenaciousness, for you have answered the call to serve and protect, regardless of the weather or any other circumstance. Thanks be to God for your ministry among us and in our city. May God bless you all and may God's holy angels keep watch over you this and every day.

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