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Press Release

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LIRR

IMMEDIATE

### MTA Police & Long Island Rail Road Dedicate New Police Station In Central Islip

#### *Local Leaders Praise Facility As Key Part of the Community's Ongoing Redevelopment Efforts*

MTA Long Island Rail Road President Helena Williams and MTA Police Chief Michael Coan were joined today by elected officials and community leaders in Central Islip, L.I. for the official dedication of the new Suffolk County headquarters of the MTA Police.

Located at 10 West Suffolk Ave., just to the west of the LIRR Central Islip train station, the new facility is the base of operations for the MTA Police Eastern Region District 1 Command and houses 40 patrol officers, detectives, and administrative staff, including the MTA Police K-9 unit. The building also contains space for training and a motor pool for the maintenance and repair of the department's emergency response vehicles.

"The security and safety of our customers is always our No. 1 priority and this state-of-art police facility clearly strengthens our ability to address rail and customer-related emergencies in Suffolk County," said Williams. "Once again, we have to thank all the community leaders and elected officials who worked together with the MTA to make the police station a reality."

MTA Police Chief Coan said: "The men and women of the MTA Police District 1 do a first rate job 24 hours a day, seven days a week and now they have a first rate police facility in which to work. This MTA Police Department District 1 facility provides police services and security to the millions of customers, employees and property of the LIRR for the geographical area of Suffolk County. In 2010, District 1 responded to 11,200 police calls for service. The cooperation we receive from our local police and emergency service partners in Suffolk County help us keep the Long Island Rail Road secure and its trains on time."

Mitchell H. Pally, the Suffolk County representative to the MTA Board of Directors, said: "I want to thank all of the community groups and elected officials who have indicated over the years the importance of this project both for the security needs of the LIRR as well as the quality of life needs of our Central Islip community. This project has been one of my highest priorities since I have been on the MTA Board and I am thrilled that the project is now completed and can begin to provide the much needed security benefits to Long Island."

The 16,000 square foot police building, funded with \$11.5 million from the MTA-LIRR Capital Program, sits on the former site of the old Central Islip train station and replaces temporary trailers that housed the District 1 command for a number of years. The old trailer complex was never considered an adequate police building and, in fact, had long been considered an eyesore by the Central Islip community.

Community groups such as the Central Islip Civic Association, along with local elected officials, had campaigned vigorously over the years for the new police station.

The 700-member MTA Police Department provides safety and security for the commuters and travelers who use the Long Island Rail Road, Metro-North Railroad and Staten Island Railway. MTA Police Eastern Region District 1 covering Suffolk County is responsible for policing 41 LIRR stations, 216 grade crossings, 7 LIRR yards with storage/repair facilities and 22 electric substations. The MTA Police Department's Eastern Region is commanded by Chief Kathleen Finneran. The District 1 Commander is Captain Neil Boyle.

The building was designed by Wank Adams Slavin Associates LLP (WASA/Studio A) and constructed by Lipsky Enterprises, Inc. of Bayport, L.I. It is in full compliance with New York State Executive Order 111, requiring new municipal construction to meet strict energy-efficient guidelines for lighting, heating, cooling and insulation.

To report a crime to the MTA Police or reach the department in the event of some other emergency call 888-682-9117. For non-emergencies, the MTA Police District 1 offices in Central Islip can be reached at 631-851-2230.