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**CITY OF MEMPHIS HOSTS TRAINING DAY ON NEUROSCIENCE OF SEXUAL ASSAULT,
EVIDENCE AND INVESTIGATION FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT, COMMUNITY**

MEMPHIS, TN – Sexual assault is a crime that terrorizes victims, damages lives and presents law enforcement with a sensitive and complex challenge.

With generous support from the Joyful Heart and Assisi foundations, the City of Memphis is producing a training day on sexual assault. The training day will be held on Monday, August 11, 2014 and includes separate sessions for law enforcement officials and the community.

The day begins at 8:30 am in the University Center Ballroom with a session on evidence and investigation for law enforcement and criminal justice officials only. Presenters include: Donna Nelson, forensic scientist with Tennessee Bureau of Investigation; retired Detective Sgt. Jim Markey, Phoenix Police Department; and Dr. Rebecca Campbell, professor of Community Psychology and Program Evaluation at Michigan State University. Her research focuses on violence against women, specifically sexual assault and how the legal, medical, and mental systems respond to the needs of rape survivors.

Also, Dr. Campbell will be the guest presenter at the community session from 6:30- 8:30 pm at Memphis College of Art Rust Hall in Overton Park, off Poplar at Tucker in Midtown. Media and the public are invited to this session in which Dr. Campbell talks about what happens in the brain and body during and after an assault, and the implications for police, service providers and those who seek to help and understand survivors. She and the others will take questions after her presentation. Additionally, Sarah Tofte of the Joyful Heart Foundation will provide a national perspective on untested kits and available resources. Mayor A C Wharton, Jr. and MPD Deputy Chief Jim Harvey will provide an update on the City's inventory of untested sexual assault kits, funding, and the work of the Cross Functional Team (CFT).

The City of Memphis is steadfastly addressing an inventory of more than 12,000 stored sexual assault kits by systematically shipping kits to laboratories and pursuing resulting cases, monitored by the CFT from across city departments, law enforcement and community advocates.

Seating is limited to 350 attendees and is first come, first served. On-street parking is available, as well as, a small lot west of the school. Handicap access is via ramps on either side of the entrance stairs.

For more information on the Sexual Assault Kit inventory in Memphis, go to:
<http://www.cityofmemphis.org/SexualAssaultKitBacklog.aspx>

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