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San José Remains “Safest Big City in America”
Annual study based on FBI crime stats keeps San Jose in top spot

San José ---- San José continues to be rated the safest big city in America for the 32 cities with populations over 500,000, according to the twelfth annual statistical analysis based on FBI crime statistics released today by Morgan Quitno Press.

“Keeping our residents and neighborhoods safe is one of our highest priorities,” said Mayor Ron Gonzales. “I’m very proud that San José remains the nation’s safest big city, year after year, because it shows the results of our sustained commitment by our entire community.

“San Jose has become a model for other big cities for our continuing investments in a well-trained and well-equipped police force, our strong focus on crime prevention, and our effective and innovative community partnerships that lead to solutions to protect public safety.”

This year Jacksonville, Florida, entered the top-ten list of safest big cities, and San Francisco fell off from tenth position last year. New York moved up from fifth to fourth, San Diego from seventh to sixth, and Fort Worth from tenth to ninth. Austin slipped from fourth to fifth, and Louisville from sixth to seventh.

Morgan Quitno uses six basic crime categories – murder, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary and motor vehicle theft – to determine its annual rankings for all cities with populations over 75,000 that reported crime data to the FBI. Each of the six crimes was given equal weight. Final 2004 FBI statistics were used in determining the rankings. Explanation of methodology and full details can be found on-line at www.morganquitno.com/safecity.htm.

Additional information regarding the rankings for each of the 369 cities and 330 metropolitan areas considered for the Safest City Awards are available from Morgan Quitno Press at www.morganquitno.com, or by calling (785) 841-3534.

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[Tables of the “Ten Safest” and “Ten Most Dangerous” big American cities are attached]

**2005 Ten Safest Big Cities
(500,000 or More Population)**

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. San José, CA (1) | 6. San Diego, CA (7) |
| 2. El Paso, TX (2) | 7. Louisville, KY (6) |
| 3. Honolulu, HI (3) | 8. San Antonio, TX (8) |
| 4. New York, NY (5) | 9. Fort Worth, TX (10) |
| 5. Austin, TX (4) | 10. Jacksonville, FL (-) |

(2004 ranking in parentheses)

**2005 Most Dangerous Big Cities
(500,000 or More Population)**

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Detroit, MI (1) | 6. Philadelphia, PA (6) |
| 2. Baltimore, MD (3) | 7. Columbus, OH (7) |
| 3. Washington, DC (2) | 8. Nashville, TN (8) |
| 4. Memphis, TN (4) | 9. Houston, TX (9) |
| 5. Dallas, TX (5) | 10. Charlotte, NC (-) |

(2004 ranking in parentheses)

Source: Morgan Quitno Press, based on 2004 FBI Crime Index
www.morganquitno.com/safecity12.htm
www.fbi.gov/ucr/ucr.htm