

# Motorcycle cops' new home is near Beacon

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The Jersey City Police Department Motorcycle Squad has a new home.

The squad has moved out of its four trailers at the Public Works Department on Route 440 and into what were two empty floors in the Criterion building of the old Jersey City Medical Center on Cornelison Avenue.

Mayor Jerramiah T. Healy will cut the ribbon for the new headquarters at 10 a.m. today.

Capt. Joseph Serylo, commander of the Police Department's Special

Operations Bureau, which includes the 26-officer motorcycle unit, said the 12,260-square-foot space is a "vast improvement" over sharing space at the Public Works facility with the Emergency Services Unit.

At its new digs, the squad parks its 25 Harley-Davidsons on the ground floor, with offices and a locker room on the floor above. Seven or eight cops are stationed there each day.

"They're very happy to be here," Serylo said. "It's new and clean, and there's much more room to work."

Developer George Filopoulos, president of Manhattan-based Metrovest Equities and owner of the

neighboring Beacon condo complex, spent \$1.4 million to renovate the squad's new home. He is leasing it to the city for \$1 a year for 10 years, Metrovest attorney Eugene Paolino said.

Under the lease deal approved by the City Council in March, the city will pay real estate taxes on the 4.5 percent of the building occupied by the squad, but the amount will be capped at \$12,000 a year. The city's current annual tax burden at the building is about \$2,000.

The Beacon has a 30-year tax abatement that allows it to pay the city between 10 and 12 percent of its gross annual revenue.