

Lower rookie pay hampers NYPD recruiting

by UPI

NEW YORK -- The New York Police Department has been having trouble recruiting new officers and keeping the ones they have reportedly because of starting pay levels. A low starting salary in the high-cost city has contributed to low recruitment levels and a double-digit dropout rates among the recruits who do enlist. The New York Post said Monday that the latest academy class saw 914 officers graduate out of more than 1,100 who began the class. The current class already has a 13 percent dropout rate. The result is the force is at its lowest overall manpower level since 1993. Department officials concede that the city's decision in 2006 to cut the police department's starting salary from \$40,000 per year to \$25,000 has been a major contributor to the falloff. They insist, however, they aren't lowering their recruiting standards just to attract more bodies.

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