

Cops disciplined in scalped ticket scam

by UPI

ST. LOUIS - Eight St. Louis police officers were disciplined for allegedly giving friends and family members baseball playoff tickets confiscated from scalpers last fall.

Police Chief Joseph Mokwa suspended the eight officers for two weeks without pay and reduced them in rank for at least a year, which reduced their pay, the department said in a release Wednesday. The affected officers, who could lose as much as \$20,000 in pay, were not named.

Six other members of the police force, including a lieutenant and three sergeants, are to be disciplined for "failure to supervise." A Circuit Attorney is to review the case to determine whether criminal charges will be filed.

The St. Louis Police Department of Internal Affairs began an investigation in November after a citizen complained his confiscated tickets were inappropriately used during the World Series between the St. Louis Cardinals and Detroit Tigers.

Investigators determined that eight police officers "violated department ethical standards and evidence handling procedures."

The officers allegedly confiscated about 30 World Series tickets, which had a face value of \$50-\$250, from people trying to sell them illegally outside Busch Stadium, and gave them to relatives and friends.

Copyright © 2007, by United Press International. All Rights Reserved.

Cops disciplined in scalped ticket scam by UPI