



# City of Cambridge Police Department

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**Robert C. Haas**  
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*City Manager*

## Cambridge Police Department Celebrates Women's History Month

**March 8, 2011** – In honor of International Women's Day on March 8<sup>th</sup> and Women's History Month, the Cambridge Police Department would like to highlight the achievements of its first female police officer.

Edith J. Taylor was hired as an investigator in July of 1919 and became a full-time police officer in March of 1921. She spent 33 years as a Cambridge Police Officer.

Taylor is remembered as a woman who enjoyed helping Cambridge youth stay on the right path and was a key player in helping to establish a Big Brother/Big Sister program in the city. She felt that it would be better to have an older "sibling" looking after a young person rather than a police officer, and that parents of teenagers should know where their children are at night, who they are with, and that they should set curfews.



Taylor was involved in other duties as well, and liked to tell the story of how she used to patrol Harvard Square establishments asking women to put out their cigarettes.

She was eventually succeeded in the department by Louise Nelson Darling, Cambridge's second female police officer.

To learn more about the history of the Cambridge Police Department, visit <http://www2.cambridgema.gov/CPD/About/History.cfm>.

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