



City of McKinney Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

First United Bank donates car to Citizens on Patrol

Official presentation to volunteer patrol group, MPD

McKINNEY, TEXAS (May 13, 2010) – A volunteer group that helps keep McKinney among the safest cities in the state will get a boost from a local bank next week. First United Bank of McKinney will present a donated car to the Citizens on Patrol (C.O.P.) program on Wednesday, May 19. The C.O.P. program, operated through the McKinney Police Department (MPD), uses trained citizen volunteers to expand the patrol reach, acting as an extra set of eyes and ears for the MPD. City and Police officials will be on hand to thank the bank for the donation.

When: Wednesday, May 19 at 5 p.m.

Where: First United Bank, 6401 S. Custer Rd.

Speakers: Mayor Brian Loughmiller, Chief Doug Kowalski, First United President Dean Castillo

“First United is committed to being authentically involved in meeting the needs of the entire McKinney community. The duties performed by the Citizens on Patrol are a key ingredient to what makes McKinney a great place to live. When the opportunity arose to help out a volunteer group that works hard to keep all of our residents and businesses safe, we are pleased to be of service,” said First United President Dean Castillo.

The C.O.P. is a non-confrontational unit that extends the patrol capacity of the MPD. Fifteen trained volunteers make up the unit that reports any suspicious activity they see while on patrol through direct radio contact with police dispatch. They also man the city’s new sky watch tower, cover the vacation watch patrol for residents who request extra attention while they are out of town, and help with community events like National Night Out.

The newly donated car doubles the number of vehicles operated by the C.O.P. unit – they currently operate with just one patrol car. Both the new and current cars are fully marked with the “Citizens on Patrol” insignia.

“Our entire department greatly appreciates the generosity of First United Bank for this incredible addition to the Citizens on Patrol program. The volunteers provide a tremendous service to our residents, and an additional patrol vehicle enables them to

extend their impact even further. Involved and engaged businesses like First United embody the spirit of our city,” said Police Chief Doug Kowalski.

The C.O.P. program is funded by partially by the MPD, but most funds are donated to the 501C-3 organization.

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About McKinney

McKinney, Texas, is unique by nature. As one of the fastest-growing cities in the U.S., McKinney has a current population of 126,500. Incorporated in 1848, the city is located 30 miles north of Dallas and is the county seat of Collin County. McKinney offers rolling hills, lush trees, a historic downtown square and unique neighborhoods and developments, and it was recently ranked as one of the Top 10 Best Places to Move by Forbes Magazine. Visit the city’s Web site at www.mckinneytexas.org.

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