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DEDICATION CEREMONY TO BE HELD JUNE 5 FOR FORT WORTH POLICE & FIREFIGHTERS MEMORIAL

Fort Worth, Texas – May 15, 2009 – A citywide Dedication Ceremony for the Fort Worth Police & Firefighters Memorial, now under construction in Trinity Park off West 7th Street, will be held Friday, June 5 at 9:30 a.m.

NOTE TO NEWS MEDIA: Parking will be available to credentialed news media on the East bound lanes of West 7th Street. Please contact Margaret Ritsch (contact information above) if you plan to cover the event.

The Dedication marks an important milestone for Fort Worth, the only U.S. city of its size without a memorial to honor its fallen officers until now. The Fort Worth Police and Firefighters Memorial will honor three deputy marshals, 55 police officers and 37 firefighters who have lost their lives in the line of duty since the city's earliest days. It is designed with the flexibility to continue honoring individuals killed in the line of duty in the future.

At the June 5 Dedication Ceremony, these 95 fallen heroes will be remembered through the reading of their names and the dates of their decease. Reverent choral music by Schola Cantorum of Texas, bagpipes, and the presentation of colors are also planned for the event, which is expected to be heavily attended by city leaders, peace officers, firefighters and the general public.

Massive bronze sculptures of a firefighter, police officer and riderless horse, will be unveiled at the Dedication. Adjacent to the sculptures will be two high walls of names that will list randomly all police officers, firefighters and marshals who have died in the line of duty. Designed by Fort Worth architects Gideon Toal, the Memorial will also feature black granite kiosks that will take visitors through several eras of Fort Worth history and tell the stories of some of our fallen heroes. A decomposed granite path winding through the trees will guide visitors to the sculptures and walls of names.

The City of Fort Worth donated five acres on the north end of Trinity Park for the project, and more than 800 individuals and companies gave a total of \$1.2

million to fund the project. Additional contributions to the project are welcome and can be made by e-mailing info@cfwfallenheroes.org.

Balfour Beatty Construction is overseeing the Memorial's construction and Jack Wilson is the sculptor.

The Memorial project is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit overseen by a Board of Directors, whose membership includes Fort Worth police officers, firefighters, senior city officials, and corporate leaders. The board co-chairs are Bob Kolba and John Stevenson. The board's project coordinator is Linda Fulmer.

The event is free and open to the public; however there will be seating for 750. Parking is available at Farrington Field with shuttle service to the Memorial site. Guests must arrive no later than 8:45 a.m. to catch a shuttle in time for the ceremony.

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