



## **NEWS RELEASE**

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

[Forest Hill, TX-October 9, 2007] The City of Forest Hill Police Department has completed its 2007 STEP grant project. STEP, which stands for Selective Traffic Enforcement Program, is a state-wide "Wave" grant initiative that allows local Police Departments to take the money allotted to them and apply it to enforcing certain traffic violations. The City of Forest Hill grant was written for use in speeding violations. The grant allows the Police Department to participate on certain holidays. The 2007 project was completed in four phases: Valentines Day in February, Spring Break in March, Memorial Day weekend and Labor Day weekend. The September phase tied directly into the national and state media "Click It or Ticket" campaign.

In October, 2006 when the STEP grant first began, the original speed compliance percentage was 36.10. At the completion of the grant, the speed compliance percentage went up to 45.38. That is a 9.28% increase in one year. "I am thoroughly pleased with the work our officers did on this project," said Police Chief Rex Phelps. He added, "It goes hand-in-hand with the recognition our department received two years ago for earning the greatest percentage point increase for seatbelt compliance in Texas. We went up 42% then and now an over 9% increase in speed compliance. That's great teamwork."

The STEP program, sponsored by the Texas Department of Transportation and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration allows officers to work overtime or regular time (depending on how the grant is written) strictly on traffic details. The grant traditionally allows the officers to enforce speeding, seatbelt and DWI violations. "Our officers worked very hard to make this project a success and I believe we have succeeded once again," said Corporal William Glock, Project Manager of the STEP program.

For more information about the program and its accomplishments in Forest Hill, contact Corporal William Glock at the Forest Hill Police Department, (817) 531-5272 or via email at [wglock@foresthilltx.org](mailto:wglock@foresthilltx.org).

The City of Forest Hill was established in 1946. It is home to more than 13,000 residents and over 300 businesses. It is located in southeast Tarrant County. It has been named the 10<sup>th</sup> fastest growing city in Tarrant County by the *Fort Worth Business Press*.

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