

News Release

City of Anna
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Public safety personnel host competitive blood drive *'Battle of the Badges' occurs July 26 and 27*

ANNA (July 15, 2019) in keeping with their professional mission of service to the community, the Anna Fire and Police Departments are cooperating in a two-day blood drive this month and challenging each other to recruit the highest number of donors.

"Our Police Officers and Firefighters are on the front lines of service to our residents and guests on a daily basis, so it's completely fitting that they have teamed up on the blood drive," says Anna City Manager Jim Proce. "When our residents see our public safety personnel, they immediately think of them as lifesavers, so the blood drive, which is designed to provide a lifesaving resource, makes perfect sense."

Called the Battle of the Badges, both departments, in coordination with Carter BloodCare, will be actively seeking blood donors for the two-day drive. It's set for Friday, July 26 at Brookshires Grocery, 1325 W. White St., from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m., and Saturday, July 27 at the Anna Fire Station, 305 N. Powell St., from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Police Chief Jeff Caponera and Fire Chief Ray Isom have both endorsed the friendly competition, encouraging their supporters to step forward and donate. Each is asking donors to declare the donation for their respective departments. Donors, regardless of their affiliation, will receive a Battle of the Badges T-shirt for donating.

Proce says the blood drive falls squarely within the City's commitment to making Anna responsive to the needs of the local community.

"Our Police Officers conduct active community policing, interacting with residents in a positive way. They hold regular Coffee with a Cop gatherings, and are active in many other ways," he said. "At the same time, our Firefighters are constantly seeking ways to connect with the community, through school programs, Fire Prevention Week activities, and a myriad of effective outreach efforts. And, of course, when emergencies arise, both police and fire are always there."

Donors must be at least 16 years of age and be in good health. Carter BloodCare provides life-saving transfusion resources to more than 200 medical facilities in over 50 counties throughout North, Central, and East Texas. Each year, they provide more than 300,000 units of blood products to meet patients' treatment requirements. Carter BloodCare's services include collection, processing, specialized laboratory testing, storage and distribution of blood and blood components.

Appointments for July 26 can be made by clicking here:

https://ww3.greatpartners.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/105779?fbclid=IwAR2wX4n-GTQelORj7NNQO1EqKb3TR6uW-uo0EEWGVW2GmqtLqhHhUGjWQs, and appointments for July 27 can be made by

clicking here:

https://ww3.greatpartners.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/105780?fbclid=IwAR1UjcW0c6iTQtBBrgp3oCqXWdKJtIFhD2q8Ocuo-LtP4vtinStNxHenXg. These links also appear on the Anna Police and Fire Department's Facebook pages,

as well as the Anna Area Chamber of Commerce Facebook page.

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ABOUT ANNA – With a population of 15,000 and growing rapidly, the City of Anna is the fourth fastest-growing community in North Texas. Located in northern Collin County along U.S Highway 75, State Highway 5, and State Highway 121, Anna is a vibrant and emerging city that offers its residents an excellent quality of life and low cost of living. With much of its land still undeveloped, Anna is becoming an attractive location for retail and commercial establishments. Anna's workforce is skilled, well-educated, and comparatively young. Residents enjoy recreational opportunities, parks, trails, open spaces, easy access to the DFW and Red River corridors, and a pace of living that matches both a relaxed hometown and a thriving community.