

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE September 9, 2024

Honorable Mayor of the Public Safety Committee
TO Cara Mendelsohn (Chair), Kathy Stewart (Vice Chair), Tennell Atkins, Jesse Moreno
Gay Donnell Willis

SUBJECT **The National Faith & Blue Organization**

The National Faith & Blue Weekend is a powerful initiative that builds bridges to more engaged communities. At the heart of the initiative is the reinforcement of connections between law enforcement professionals and the communities they serve. The initiative was launched in 2020 by MovementForward, Inc. (MFI), with the support of the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS Office) of the U.S. Department of Justice. MFI convened focus groups across the country to learn about best practices for law enforcement agencies and faith-based organizations to jointly create inclusive and safe communities. The organizers represent every major national law enforcement membership and professional organization in the United States and every faith tradition. Faith & Blue is based on the premise that strong communities are built through mutual respect and understanding. Law enforcement and faith institutions are key pillars of each community, and when they work together, neighborhoods thrive.

During the second weekend of each October, houses of worship and law enforcement agencies jointly organize activities designed to foster ways for residents and law enforcement professionals to relate as ordinary people with shared values, hopes, and dreams. The partners who are part of National Faith & Blue Weekend believe that finding ways to work together around our many commonalities instead of being divided by our differences creates a much stronger community.

The Dallas Police Department has participated in Faith & Blue week since 2021. We have partnered with faith-based nonprofit organizations such as Project Unity and Behind Every Door. We have also participated in numerous prayer breakfasts with local churches.

For 2024, the Dallas Police Department, Community Engagement Bureau, has the following events planned thus far:

1. October 9, 2024 – “Together We Dine”, in partnership with Project Unity
2. October 11, 2024 – Community Prayer Breakfast – Church (TBD)
3. October 12, 2024 – Unity Walk – Ronald Kirk Pedestrian Bridge

Furthermore, each Patrol Division’s Neighborhood Policing Officer unit will host an event during Faith & Blue Week.

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Should you have any questions or concerns please contact me at (214) 670-5299.

Service First, Now!



Dominique Artis
Chief of Public Safety (I)

c: Kimberly Bizer Tolbert, City Manager (I)
Tammy Palomino, City Attorney
Mark Swann, City Auditor
Biliera Johnson, City Secretary
Preston Robinson, Administrative Judge
Dev Rastogi, Assistant City Manager
M. Elizabeth (Liz) Cedillo-Pereira, Assistant City Manager

Alina Ciocan, Assistant City Manager
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Jack Ireland, Chief Financial Officer
Elizabeth Saab, Chief of Strategy, Engagement, and Alignment (I)
Directors and Assistant Directors