THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

NEWS RELEASE

Police Department

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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STREET DEDICATIONS IN HONOR OF FALLEN TRAFFIC OFFICERS

(San Diego) On October 17, 2007 at 9 a.m. Chief William Lansdowne, along with members of the San Diego Police Department will dedicate two streets (driveways) in memory of fallen traffic officers Terry Bennett and Gerald Griffin. The streets are located in the 7700 block of Balboa Avenue; just east of the intersection of Balboa Avenue and Interstate 805.

Officer Griffin was a 17-year veteran of the SDPD who was killed on April 15, 2003. He was working with the Traffic Division as a motor officer conducting traffic stops when he was struck by a vehicle, sustaining serious injuries. Officer Griffin died several days later as a result of his injuries. Officer Griffin's assignments include the protection detail for former Mayors Dick Murphy and Susan Golding; Northeastern and Eastern patrol; Traffic Division and he also taught at the San Diego Regional Public Safety Academy.

Officer Bennett was a 13-year veteran of the SDPD who was killed on June 26, 2003. At the time, he was assigned as a motor officer in the Traffic Division. Officer Bennett was involved in the pursuit of a stolen vehicle when that driver purposely hit him causing severe injuries. Officer Bennett died at the hospital that same day. His assignments include Southern patrol, Traffic Division and teaching at the San Diego Regional Public Safety Academy.

The dedication will take place in the south west parking lot (next to Applebee's restaurant). Chief Lansdowne will present the families of the officers with replica street signs bearing the names of Officers Bennett and Griffin.

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