



GOODYEAR POLICE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

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PRESS RELEASE

***** February 19, 2008*****

The Goodyear Police Officers Association (GYPOA) is the professional association of the Goodyear Police Department that is comprised of sworn Officers, Sergeants and Lieutenants.

The purpose of this press release is to inform the public about basic details of this incident, thank everyone for their overwhelming support and advise the public of The Officer Melrose Family Assist Fund at Bank of America.

DETAILS:

On 2-18-08 at approximately 1421 hours Goodyear Police responded to the area of 490 N. Dysart Road for an armed robbery in progress. During the apprehension of the suspect, K9 Handler Officer R. Melrose was shot twice and his service dog "ZIP" was also injured from a bullet. Goodyear Police Officers returned fire which ultimately fatally injured the suspect.

As a result of the injuries sustained from the shooting, Officer Melrose will not be able to return to work for an unknown period of time, possibly 9-12 months. This inability to work will place a financial hardship on him and his family. Ricky is married and is the sole provider for his family. With the reduction in overtime, call outs and off duty...their family needs our help.

The Goodyear Police Officers Association has set up a foundation fund at Bank of America. Anyone wishing to make a contribution to Officer Melrose's family make do so at any Bank of America branch to: "**The Officer Melrose Family Assist Fund**". This is the **ONLY** approved fund for Officer Melrose.

As the President of the GYPOA, I would like to express my sincere gratitude for all of the overwhelming support we have received from civilians and law enforcement officers across the country. During this very difficult time for the officers and their families, it is amazing to see the support pour in from everyone.

Officer Melrose has been employed with the City of Goodyear Police Department since 1997 and has been a K9 Handler for approximately 7 of those years.

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"To promote the positive role of the police profession. To protect and secure members' rights and benefits through effective representation and professional relationships with the community and local, state and national governments."