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MEDIA ALERT / PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
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DJCC to Honor 2009 Johnny Sides Rookie of the Year on November 6th

The Dallas Police Department's Rookie of the Year will be announced at the 57th Annual Johnny Sides Gala. Attendees will include Dallas Police Department officials, our city's most elite politicians and civic officials, and Dallas Junior Chamber of Commerce (DJCC) members for a cocktail reception, an awards dinner and after-party at Melrose's own Library Bar. A portion of the proceeds will benefit the [Assist the Officer Foundation](#), which provides financial assistance to officers facing loss of income due to a serious injury, life-threatening illness or other catastrophic event.

WHEN: Friday, November 6 at 7:00 PM

WHERE: Warwick Melrose Hotel, 3015 Oak Lawn Ave, Dallas, TX 75219

ATTIRE: Black Tie Optional

TICKETS: \$60 dinner ticket for Dallas Junior Chamber of Commerce members and \$70 dinner ticket for non-members. The dinner ticket includes a cocktail hour, awards dinner and after party. \$20 ticket for members and \$30 ticket for non-members who wish to only attend the after party. Tickets may be purchased online at www.djcc.us. Press tickets are available upon request.

2009 JOHNNY SIDES ROOKIE OF THE YEAR NOMINEES



OFFICER COREY BARNES

Before joining the DPD, Officer Corey Barnes worked for the Walker County Community Supervision and Corrections Department (Adult Probation). Upon graduation from the academy, Officer Barnes was assigned to the Central Patrol Division in June 2007. In December 2008, he was hand selected to be on the newly formed Crime Response Team. During his short tenure, Officer Barnes has already been awarded several commendations and a Certificate of Merit for his work on the Crime Response Team. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Sam Houston State University. Sergeant Roger Rudloff wrote, "His enthusiasm and untiring work ethic have made him a valuable asset, not only to the Central Division, but to our Department as well."

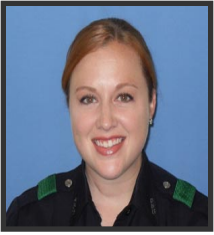


OFFICER CHRISTOPHER DELEON

After receiving his Bachelors in Criminal Justice from Texas A & M University, Officer DeLeon joined the DPD in August 2006. Officer Christopher DeLeon patrols the Southwest Division where he has apprehended suspects for aggravated robberies, aggravated assaults and drug related offenses. He previously served on the DWI Squad and Gang Unit. He has received eight internal commendations, and, one external commendation from the Motion Picture Association of America (MPAA). Sergeant Curtis Brown wrote, "Officer DeLeon maintains a good work attitude and work ethic in all aspects of police work. He is a credit to the Dallas Police Department."

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Add One - DJCC to Honor 2009 Johnny Sides Rookie of the Year on November 6th



OFFICER KRISTIN KING

Prior to joining the Dallas Police Department, Officer Kristin King previously worked as a research assistant for Lexicon Genetics. A graduate of Sam Houston State University, Officer King received her Bachelor of Science degree in Biology with a minor in Criminal Justice. She was assigned to the Northeast Division upon graduation from the academy. Officer King was determined to clean up her beat which was overrun by drug dealers, prostitutes and car-jackers. Her efforts resulted in a 21% reduction in part-one crime, as measured from the one year prior to her assignment to the beat. Sergeant Steven Shaw wrote, "Officer King has made more major arrests, written more citations, and had a greater impact on crime as a rookie officer than most officers accomplish in their first ten years on the job."



EMCEE REBECCA LOPEZ

Ms. Rebecca Lopez is a general assignments reporter based out of WFAA-TV's Dallas bureau. She started at WFAA as a part-time reporter in April 1998 and was promoted to full time a year-and-a-half later. Prior to coming to Channel 8, Lopez worked as a police and investigative reporter at KPNX in Phoenix. She also worked as a reporter/weekend anchor at KXAN in Austin, a reporter/morning anchor at KZTV in Corpus Christi, and started her career as a reporter at KTPX (now KWES) in Midland in 1988. Ms. Lopez has covered major stories, including the Oklahoma City bombing, the siege at the Branch Davidian compound in Waco, and the kidnapping of two American children found in Mexico. Lopez graduated from the University of North Texas.



SPEAKER DR ERIC COLEMAN

Dr. Eric Coleman is Assistant Professor and Interim Program Coordinator for the Department of Criminal Justice in the School of Public Affairs and Community Service at the University of North Texas Dallas Campus. Before joining the faculty at the University of North Texas, he was an Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice at Hardin-Simmons University and Western Texas College. Prior to joining the academic community, Dr. Coleman began a career in law enforcement in 1981 as a police officer for the City of Stamford, Texas. He joined the Jones County Sheriff's Department as a patrol deputy in 1981, later he was promoted to Sergeant and then Captain. Dr. Coleman received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Western Illinois University, a Master of Arts from Midwestern State University and a

Doctorate in Higher Education Leadership with a Specialization in Criminal Justice Education from Nova Southeastern University.

INTERVIEW AND PHOTO OPPORTUNITIES: Honorees, DJCC board members, Dallas Police Department officials

EVENT BACKGROUND: Johnny Sides was a Dallas Police Officer and DJCC Member. Just twenty-one days after graduating fifth in his class at the Dallas Police Academy, Officer Johnny Sides was fatally wounded when he and his partner confronted a band of criminals wanted for vicious crimes in four other states. Even as he fought for his life from his hospital bed, Patrolman Sides positively identified all four men involved in the shooting. Although a Policeman for too brief a time, Johnny Sides has inspired countless police officers and citizens with his dedication, leadership, caring and sacrifice. It is in his memory that we have recognized the Rookie of the Year for the past fifty-seven years.

THE ASSIST THE OFFICER FOUNDATION (ATO): provides financial assistance to officers facing loss of income due to a serious injury, life-threatening illness or other catastrophic event. Immediate assistance is also available to an officer's family in the event of the death of an active officer. Since its creation in 1999, the foundation has provided assistance to dozens of officers and their families who were faced with any number of different life-altering situations.

DALLAS JUNIOR CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BACKGROUND: Established in 1918, the Dallas Junior Chamber of Commerce (DJCC) is the city's premier network for young professionals between the ages of 21 – 39. We provide diverse opportunities for personal and professional growth through philanthropic, social, and educational activities.

Our members are active, up and coming professionals in the Dallas community. Through philanthropy projects and annual signature events, we make a powerful impact on our community by volunteering and fundraising for several charitable organizations. Educational development is available through monthly speakers and our Mentor Program. We host a variety of social activities, including cultural, sporting and networking.