

Florida Police Chiefs Association

Quality Law Enforcement for the Sunshine State

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FLORIDA POLICE CHIEFS CELEBRATE LEGACY BUILDING WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT, COMMUNITY

Tallahassee, Fla. - The Florida Police Chiefs Association (FPCA) today officially opened its new Tallahassee headquarters building with a ribbon cutting ceremony and remarks from the Association's President and Executive Director. The morning ceremony was the first of two events today to celebrate the new legacy building; the second event is a community celebration later in the afternoon that will include free fingerprinting for children, information about AT&T's "It Can Wait" campaign to end texting and driving and much more. The new building's primary focus is to provide new training facilities for law enforcement executives throughout the state.

"As the FPCA continues evolving to meet our members' needs, quality training opportunities and facilities is a critical component for responsible law enforcement policy and actions," said Winter Park Police Chief Brett Railey, President of the Association. "This new facility will provide our members with the training opportunities they rely on for success within their agencies."

In addition to the community activities, which include an opportunity to meet a member of the Tallahassee Police Department's K9 unit; the chance to have child car seats checked by the Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles; rape awareness training by the Florida State University Police Department; and the chance to learn about how to investigate a crime scene, the building will be officially dedicated during an honor guard-led program. The building's flag, donated in honor of John Hunt, Sr., will be raised and a tree will be planted with members of the Tallahassee community, symbolizing a commitment to maintain close relationship between Florida's law enforcement and members of the community they protect.

"This building and its new resources establish a lasting law enforcement legacy for our members - past, present and future," said Amy Mercer, Executive Director of the Florida Police Chiefs Association. "We look forward to sharing this milestone event with members of our community as well as our law enforcement officers."

Event partner AT&T joined the celebration with a new Virtual Reality simulation as part of its award-winning, cause-related It Can Wait Can Wait Driving Simulation, developed by Reel FX (a Golden Globe-nominated animation studio), provides an unprecedented level of immersion by using virtual reality to give viewers a 360-degree account of what it is really like to text/post/video chat while driving, as well as the potentially deadly consequences of glancing at your phone while driving. AT&T has made this mobile-first experience available to all drivers by providing a free app (available for iOS and Android) that allows drivers to use their own smartphones to experience the simulation at ItCanWait.com/VR.

For more information please visit www.fpca.com or the Association's Facebook page.

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The FPCA is the third largest state police chiefs association in the nation and is composed of more than 900 of the state's top law enforcement executives. FPCA serves municipal police departments, airport police, college and university police, private business and security firms, as well as federal, state and county law enforcement agencies. The FPCA has members representing every region of the state.