

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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## **Lockhart Police Cancels "National Night Out" Event**

LOCKHART, Tx—After much consideration, we regret to inform the community that this year's National Night Out event, scheduled for October 5<sup>th</sup>, has been cancelled. This annual event gives Lockhart police officers a chance to interact with the community outside of an emergency, but the heightened potential of spreading COVID-19 has made the cancellation necessary.

"Unfortunately, with COVID-19 threatening the safety of our community and our police officers, we made the difficult decision to cancel National Night Out this year," said Lockhart Police Chief, Ernest Pedraza. "It's our job to serve and protect. It would go against the Lockhart Police Department's mission to host an event which could potentially be hazardous to the health and safety of the community and first responders."

"While we are disappointed to have to cancel this amazing event, we look forward to next year's event," Chief Pedraza added.

Upcoming community events are currently under review. Event organizers have been asked by the City of Lockhart to provide a COVID-19 safety and communication plan prior to approval.