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POLICE DEPARTMENT

NEWS RELEASE

January 4, 2008

Contact: Chris Mears, PIO @ 915.564.7322 or 915.564.6950 Pager #6468

TEXT MESSAGE WARNING IS A HOAX

Date/Time: 01/04/2008 @ 2:30 p.m.
Location: 911 N. Raynor (Police Headquarters)

EL PASO, TEXAS – Text message warning going around El Paso is a hoax. The El Paso Police Department learned many in our community received text messages and or emails claiming the Department was giving a warning to the public. First, the El Paso Police Department does not typically use these forms of communications for safety advisories. Secondly, this type of threat mentioned in the messages is a hoax and has been moving around the country. This hoax is similar to other hoaxes in the past and is intended to cause fear in the community. The threat states gang members will ask women for directions and then shoot them. These threats have been investigated and are not true. The Department asks the public to disregard this message and to not forward it to anyone else and unnecessarily spread this fear.

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