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POLICE DEPARTMENT

NEWS RELEASE

August 1st 2006

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EL PASO POLICE CONTINUE TO ASSIST COMMUNITY

EL PASO, TEXAS – The El Paso Police Department has responded to 18 collisions, 374 flood calls and 73 water emergency calls. The El Paso Police Department has been utilizing Detectives and Officers from specialized units to assist patrol officers with the large number of calls for service as well as cadets from the El Paso Police Academy. Various agencies to include Border Patrol, ICE, EPISD Police, YISD Security, DPS and Ft. Bliss have been assisting the El Paso Police Department. The El Paso Police Department also conducted a small evacuation of approximately 100 individuals from the Chihuahuita and Segundo Barrio area. The El Paso Police Department will continue to adjust schedules to have the necessary personnel available to respond to the calls for service in our community. As a reminder the public is asked to call TXDOT at 1-800-452-9292 for the most up to date information on road closures. In addition as reminder if the public has not reason to go out they are asked to stay at home. It is important for motorists to remember the following tips:

- Do not drive unless necessary.
- Do not drive through flooded areas. If you see a flooded-out roadway ahead, turn around and find another route to get to your destination.
- If there is no other route, proceed to higher ground and wait for the waters to subside.
- Even if the water appears shallow enough to cross, do not attempt to cross a flooded road. Water can conceal dips, or worse, floodwaters can damage roadways, washing away the entire road surface and a significant amount of ground.
- If your car stalls, abandon it immediately and climb to higher ground.
- Remember, 6 inches of water will reach the bottom of most passenger cars, causing loss of control or possible stalling.
- One foot of water will float many vehicles.
- Two feet of rushing water can carry away most vehicles including SUV's and pick-ups.



It is also important to mention to give yourself extra time to get to your destination as well as more space between your vehicle the one on front of you. Remember SUVs and trucks are as susceptible as any other vehicle in rain and flooded areas.

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