



## CITY COUNCIL MEMORANDUM

**FROM:** The Office of the City Manager    **DATE:** July 10, 2017

**SUBJECT:** Discussion of Police Foundation.

**PRESENTER:** Jimmy Perdue, Director of Public Safety

### **SUMMARY:**

The Police Department is looking to establish a Police Foundation. Several of the board positions will be open to members of the public. Staff is seeking the names of individuals that the City Council would like to be considered for inclusion on the board of directors.

### **GENERAL DESCRIPTION:**

The members of the Police Department are very much aware of the support we receive from the NRH community. The events of the past year have brought this home to us as we have been flooded with letters, food, emails, phone calls, cards, posters and any other medium you can imagine used to express gratitude. Not every police department enjoys this level of support and we do not take it for granted. However, one thing that has become clear is the fact we did not have a good mechanism for people to donate funds or equipment for the benefit of the Police Department. Certainly they can give directly to the City, but experience indicates that this inhibits some people from donating. Many agencies across the country have established Police Foundations to resolve this issue and I believe it is time we do the same.

A Police Foundation is an independent entity set up as a non-profit, IRS 501c3 organization. Its purpose is "...for the receiving of contributions and making of distributions to assist the North Richland Hills Police Department, its employees or volunteers and their families when in need." Groups of this type were critical in helping the families of the fallen Dallas officers last summer and others have done the same in similar circumstances. In addition, they can provide funds for PD employees who suffer a significant loss or injury to help lighten the financial load. They also can help with specific equipment needs that may not be able to be funded through the normal City budget.



All the necessary by-law and articles of incorporation needed have been completed to get the foundation operational. The foundation will initially have a ten person board which includes the Chief of Police as a non-voting member. The other positions will initially be filled by the people currently in some specific positions and there will be four positions open to the public. The board can grow larger if the members approve it per the by-laws. Staff is requesting City Council to provide any names they feel would be a good fit for serving on the board of directors.