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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Inaugural Coffee with the Chief set for Tuesday, Jan. 12 *Site of the casual chat is the Murphy Activity Center*

MURPHY (December 22, 2015) Making good on a pledge to engage the community in open, honest and frequent interaction, Chief Arthur “Trey” Cotten has scheduled a Coffee with the Chief on Jan. 12, and is inviting Murphy residents and business owners to attend.

“Almost every January, there are new laws or changes to existing laws that people might not be aware of, but that affect them directly or indirectly,” he said. “The Coffee with the Chief is a way to share information, answer questions and perhaps dispel rumors.”

The inaugural Coffee with the Chief is set for Tuesday, Jan. 12 from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. in the Murphy Activity Center, 205 North Murphy Road. The event is free and open to the general public. In addition to the Chief, other members of the Murphy Police Department will be present to meet and greet residents and business owners.

Of particular interest at the coffee will be the changes to the open carry of weapons law that will go into effect on Jan. 1. Handguns will join long guns in the open carry category with certain restrictions. Chief Cotten and his staff will present an overview of those restrictions, as well as share the process by which area businesses are able to deal with the consequences of the new law.

“While open carry will be our main topic, we will entertain questions regarding any law enforcement matter,” he said. “And, I want to be sure that residents and business owners understand that our focus will be in maintaining Murphy’s status as among the safest communities in the state.”

The inaugural Coffee with the Chief may be followed by additional opportunities for casual conversation with police officials depending on the level of participation as well as the importance of information requiring distribution.

Chief Cotten was named Chief of Police in Murphy on Sept. 21 of this year following the retirement of former Chief GM Cox.

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ABOUT MURPHY -- Murphy is a fast-growing community located in Collin County. The population is approximately 18,020, generally characterized as highly educated with a median household income above the state average. With more than 70 percent of the land developed, the community is dominated by single-family residences. City planners strive to preserve a country feel while exhibiting an aggressive economic development stance. The centrally-located municipal complex includes four buildings that house Fire, Police, City Administration and Public Works. Money Magazine has dubbed Murphy as the 27th Best Place to Live in America for small cities, and D Magazine placed Murphy as the fifth best suburb in the 2014 list, where it has consistently ranked in the top 10.