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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Police seek information on peace officer impersonator

LITTLE ELM (November 28, 2016) A Little Elm resident has reported being stopped by a person who was obviously impersonating a peace officer. The resident was not harmed or threatened during the brief encounter.

“It is a state felony to impersonate a peace officer, and we take these instances very seriously,” says Little Elm Police Chief Rodney Harrison. “Doing so is not a joke. Anyone playing a prank of this nature is subject to arrest and prosecution.”

At 7:40 p.m. last evening, a resident was turning north on Wynfield Road from Eldorado Parkway when she reacted to an apparent police stop by pulling over. Even so, she observed several factors that gave her doubts regarding the authenticity of the individual.

The individual portraying a police officer was described as a white or Hispanic male in his early 20s. He had a thin build and stood about 5’7” or 5’8” and had no discernable accent. He was wearing blue denim Dickies-style pants, a blue Dickies-style shirt, and a ball cap. He did not display a badge or identification, and did not appear armed. He was not wearing any police paraphernalia. His clothing bore no markings, badges or other identifying labels.

“The victim reports that the individual was even wearing a fake moustache, apparently in an effort to hide his true identity,” said the Chief. “The fake facial hair appeared to be hurriedly applied, since she could see the tape holding it to his face.”

He was driving a dark-colored Chevy Suburban outfitted with a single red light on the roof, similar to those used in the early 1960s. In addition, the perpetrator had rigged some sort of speaker system to simulate a siren.

“Fortunately, the victim was not hurt, and after a brief conversation in which the victim asked for an ID, the perpetrator returned to his car and left,” said the Chief. The license plate was not recorded.

“We’re asking anyone who may have seen or heard anything related to this or any other attempted stop to contact our office,” he said.

Sgt. Drew Mitchell is handling calls and tips regarding this incident. He can be reached at 214-975-0460.

Police officials encourage motorists to contact 9-1-1 if there is any doubt as to the legitimacy of any police officer. Officers report their locations and circumstances to the dispatch office, allowing the dispatcher to verify the officer’s identification to the caller.

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ABOUT LITTLE ELM – Little Elm is one of the state’s fastest growing communities. Nestled on the shores of Lake Lewisville, the Town was incorporated in 1966, adopting the Council/Manager form of government. The population increased dramatically over the last several years, growing from under 4,000 in 2000 to over 30,000 today. Little Elm’s population exceeds the state average in education and income, and is increasingly trending younger and technologically proficient. The Town’s footprint is just over 21 square miles and boasts some 66 linear miles of shoreline within its boundaries.