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News Release

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Murphy Police Partner with Emergency Communications Network for the CodeRed Alert System to Provide Voice, Email, and Text Notification

Murphy, TX – 01/25/2010 - The **City of Murphy** has contracted with Emergency Communications Network to license its CodeRED high-speed notification solution. The CodeRED system provides Murphy officials the ability to quickly deliver messages to targeted areas or the entire city. The city intends to utilize the system to deliver various kinds of messages including severe weather alerts, crime related information, and community events information.

James Fisher, City of Murphy's City Manager, cautioned that such systems are only as good as the telephone number database supporting them. "If your phone number is not in the database, you will not be called." One of the reasons the CodeRED system was selected is because it gives individuals and businesses the ability to add their own phone numbers directly into the system's database, which is an extremely important feature. Message recipient's Caller ID will read Emergency Communications Network or **866-419-5000**, depending on local telephone providers.

No one should automatically assume his or her phone number is included. All individuals and businesses who want to receive messages should log onto the **City of Murphy website, www.murphytx.org**, and follow the link to the "CodeRED Community Notification Enrollment" page. Those without Internet access may call **Kim Parker, Support Services Manager (972-468-4235), Monday through Friday, (8AM-5PM)** to supply their information over the phone. Required information includes first and last name, street address (physical address, no P.O. boxes), city, state, zip code, and primary phone number. Additional phone numbers may be entered as well. All businesses should register, as well as all individuals who have unlisted phone. CodeRED gives those who want to be included an easy and secure method for inputting information. The data collected will only be used for emergency notification purposes.

Fisher explained, "CodeRED allows geographically based delivery, which means that street addresses are required to ensure emergency notification calls are received by the proper individuals in a given situation. The system works for cell phones too, but we need to have an associated street address to provide relevant messages." The system also allows a citizen to opt out of the notification system.

The city will be sending out a test message within the next 3 to 7 days. The system will be going fully operational within the next 30 days.