

NEWS RELEASE

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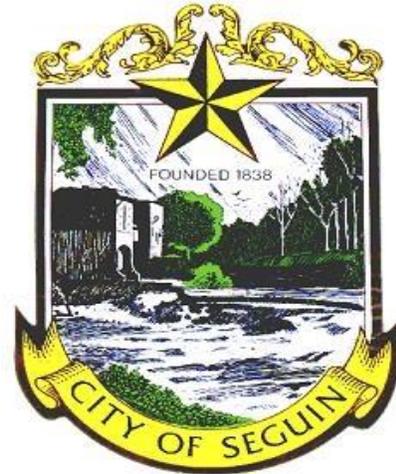
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Seguin Police Chief Receives National Honor

Chief Kevin Kelso Named D.A.R.E. DEA Law Enforcement Executive of the Year

SEGUIN, Texas – The City of Seguin is excited to announce that Police Chief Kevin Kelso has been selected from a pool of national candidates to receive the 2014 *D.A.R.E. Drug Enforcement Administration Law Enforcement Executive of the Year* award.

“I am humbled just to be nominated and very surprised to have been selected,” Chief Kelso said. “This award would not be possible without the extraordinary team we have in place and the hard work and dedication exhibited by our employees.”

The award, given annually, recognizes the efforts of a law enforcement executive and his or her department for their continuing support of the Drug Abuse Resistance Education program. The Drug Enforcement Administration sponsors the award to highlight the importance of law enforcement and prevention working together to make out communities safe and drug-free.

“If there is an event that benefits the young people of Seguin, Chief Kelso will be there and be involved,” Seguin Mayor Don Keil said. “He can be seen standing in the cold, collecting toys and money for Blue Santa, attending the D.A.R.E. Cinderella Ball with his daughter and passing out candy at the D.A.R.E. Halloween Safe House. As a loving father who is active in his

daughters' lives, Chief Kelso is highly motivated to make sure that our kids grow up in an environment that is safe and drug-free."

From fundraising to shaking the hand of each program graduate, Chief Kelso is involved with every aspect of the Seguin Police Department's D.A.R.E. program. He takes a hand-on role in organizing all of the department's D.A.R.E. events, including the Halloween Safe House, Blue Santa program, Cops and Kids Picnic, Cinderella Ball and Red Ribbon Week. Not only does Chief Kelso ensure the events to be successful through the planning stages, he volunteers at each.

"The Seguin Police Department D.A.R.E. program celebrates its 20th anniversary this year," Seguin City Manager Doug Faseler said. "Chief Kelso's involvement over the past five years has provided significant momentum for the program to continue to positively impact the lives of children for many years to come."

Chief Kelso has been with the Seguin Police Department five years. He immediately introduced the *Smart Policing Initiative* to the department, which has helped lead to a steady and significant decline in crime. In 2013, the Seguin Police Department became the 76th department in Texas to become a *Recognized Law Enforcement Agency* by the Texas Police Chiefs Association. Chief Kelso also led the charge to hire a forensic specialist, upgrade equipment in the property room and add computers and digital equipment to each patrol vehicle.

"Chief Kelso always thinks of others, even when the going gets tough -- really tough," Seguin City Councilor Jet Crabb said. "This was evidenced in February 2011 when Chief Kelso's wife, Mary, was diagnosed with Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma. She succumbed to the disease in June 2013. Throughout the emotional roller coaster that he and his family experienced, Chief Kelso skillfully and professionally carried out his departmental duties. The 2013 Cinderella Ball took place two days after Mary Kelso's funeral. Chief Kelso attendee that ball with his youngest daughter, Cassidy, a graduate of the D.A.R.E. program. His presence there was not only supportive of his daughter but it also served to honor his wife who had worked side-by-side with him on behalf of D.A.R.E. endeavors."

Chief Kelso will be presented the award July 8 at the 27th D.A.R.E. America International Training Conference in Grapevine, Texas.

“Drug possession, distribution and usage is one of major focal points in eradicating other types of crimes, both violent and property,” Chief Kelso continued. “This agency is dedicated to serving our public to the best of our abilities.”



Seguin Police Chief Kevin Kelso has been selected to receive the 2014 D.A.R.E. Drug Enforcement Administration Law Enforcement Executive of the Year award. The award will be presented July 8 at the 27th D.A.R.E. America International Training Conference in Grapevine, Texas.

About the City of Seguin

Seguin, Texas is located along Interstate 10, about 35 miles east of San Antonio. Seguin is big enough to boast a top-rated university and a state-of-the-art hospital. More than 25,000 residents enjoy a range of cultural, recreational, and employment opportunities. Seguin’s robust diversified economy features a steelmaker, a manufacturer of automotive parts and plants making roadside mowing equipment and building materials. In 2009, Seguin was proud to be selected by Caterpillar as the site of a major new engine manufacturing facility.

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