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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**SPD mourns the loss of Veteran Police Officer**

**SEGUIN** –It is with great sadness we inform you that one of our Veteran Police Officers has passed away. Officer Paul Blea served the citizens of Seguin for almost three decades. Before beginning his career in law enforcement, Paul served as an E5 in the United States Navy. In July of 1993, he accepted his first Police Officer's position with the Kleberg County Sheriff's Office.

In February of 1995, Officer Blea was sworn in with the Seguin Police Department and was assigned to the Patrol Division where he dedicated his life to helping others. During his tenure, he served as a Patrolman, a DARE Officer and a Detective with the Criminal Investigations Division.

Officer Blea was responsible for teaching most of the in-service training at the department and did so with such pride.

Today, the Seguin Police Department has experienced a great loss and will miss Officer Paul Blea tremendously.

Funeral services for Officer Blea will be held on Tuesday, July 16, 2019, at 10:00 am at St. James Catholic Church, located at 510 S. Camp St. The service will be open to the public and attendees are encouraged to wear purple. The family is asking for monetary donation, in his name, to St. James in lieu of flowers. ###