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**City of Wylie**  
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**PRESS RELEASE**

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**‘Heroes of Wylie’ Sculpture to be Dedicated on 9/11**

*Ceremony of Remembrance to Commemorate Attack on Twin Towers, Pentagon*

**Wylie, TX, Aug. 18, 2015** – The Wylie community will gather Sept. 11 at 9:30 am to dedicate “Heroes of Wylie,” the newest public art installation, located at the Public Safety Building, 2000 N. Hwy. 78.

The dedication will include remarks by Mayor Eric Hogue, representatives of the fire and police departments and other city officials and a ceremony commemorating 9/11 and the falling of the Twin Towers in New York City. The public is invited.

Bronze sculpture “Heroes of Wylie” is approximately 6 feet tall and 5 feet wide and weighs 650 pounds. It depicts a firefighter and police officer standing side by side and was created by artist Sid Henderson of Tucson, Ariz. Members of the Wylie police and fire departments gave input into the design and emotion of the sculpture, including their wish to have uniform elements depicted in accurate detail. Officers and firefighters posed for more than 50 photographs used to create the lifelike representation. Plaques engraved with “Fireman’s Prayer” and “Police Officer’s Prayer” are featured, along with a plaque dedicating the piece to the men and women of WPD and WFR.

The \$41K project was funded through Wylie’s Public Art Program, which dedicates 1 percent of capital improvement project costs to fund commissioned art projects and includes revenue generated from the Wylie Arts Festival and JazzArts Fest. “Heroes of Wylie” was funded entirely by funds raised through special events.

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Henderson has created public art, including sculptures and murals, in Arizona and many Texas communities. He has also illustrated several books and magazines and holds a bachelor's degree in art from the University of California at Davis. He noted that "Heroes of Wylie" pays tribute to the "humanity and heroism of the police and firefighters in Wylie, Texas."

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About Wylie – Incorporated in 1887, the City of Wylie is located just 24 miles from downtown Dallas in Collin, Dallas and Rockwall counties. Possessing an outstanding school district, a low crime rate, an ISO #1 rating and an expanding business climate, Wylie (population 44,938) is one of the fastest-growing communities in the state of Texas with a 197-percent increase since 2000. It was named 25 on MONEY magazine's Best Places to Live in America 2015.