



PRESS RELEASE

I. DATE OF PRESS RELEASE: October 5, 2011

II. COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENT:
Livermore and Pleasanton Police SWAT Teams Saving Lives

III. INFORMATION:

The East County Tactical Team (Livermore and Pleasanton Police Departments' combined SWAT team) recently took part of a busy training day to save lives in a different way than most officers are accustomed to. Members of the Tactical Team rolled up their camouflaged sleeves and they each donated a pint of blood to the American Red Cross. In total, the team donated two gallons of blood.

Most community members think of SWAT team members as big burly men risking their lives in extreme situations to save others. The team's donating blood was just another way that the tactical officers provide support for our community, and show their commitment to saving lives.

Sara O'Brien, Communications Manager at the American Red Cross, was happy to hear that the officers had donated so much blood. O'Brien stated that the donated blood could potentially aid fifty people in need. O'Brien said that while donating blood is not a risky maneuver for the officers, she knew there were plenty of local people who will benefit greatly from the efforts of the officers. O'Brien said that anyone who wants to donate blood can either call 1-800-redcross, or go online at www.redcrossblood.org. O'Brien hopes that the officers' willingness to give back to their community might inspire others to do the same.

Sergeant Brian Martinez of the Livermore Police Department, the Tactical Commander of the team stated, "It was fun, and it was a new and different way to help others. All the members of the team participated, and everyone got a kick out of seeing a bunch of officers donating blood all at once. Giving blood is easy, and we encourage everyone to do so. It was a great way for our team to bond."

IV. CONTACT PERSON: PIO Sergeant John Hurd
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