
Lexington Police Department

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Terrence Green
Chief of Police

"Building Partnerships with the Community We Serve"

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Protective Vest for Canine Officer Donated

Lexington, SC (June 21, 2011, 2:00 pm) – During the Town Council meeting on June 13, The Lexington Police Department was presented with soft body armor for canine officer "Leena" by Elaine Henderson, founder of the non-profit group "Hero's Vest Fund". This donation was made possible through the generosity of Cherokee Trail Veterinary Hospital. "Leena" is a working patrol canine who is cross trained in locating illegal drugs, tracking and apprehending criminals.

Body armor to protect the life of a police canine is not something that is routinely provided for due to the cost which is around \$2100.00. According to Chief Terrence Green "while most people look at police canines as just trained dogs, in actuality they are an integral member of our police force and are used first in some of the most dangerous environments. It is only fitting that they be afforded the same protections as their human counterparts."

The Heroes Vest Fund's mission is to provide bullet/stab/slash resistant vests to K9 Officers throughout SC. To make a donation or for more information please visit <http://www.heroesvestfund.org/>.

– END –

(Photo Attached)

Group photo from left to right: Dr. Heyward Boyette & Dr. Ginger Macaulay of Cherokee Trail Veterinary Hospital; Ms. Elaine Henderson, Founder of Heroes Vest Fund; Chief Terrence Green; Corporal Walker, Canine Handler; K9 Leena.

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