

By: Hill

H.R. No. 254

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, The Richardson Police Department is celebrating its  
2 50th anniversary on May 14, 2005, and this event provides a fitting  
3 opportunity to honor the officers and volunteers who claim  
4 allegiance to this fine department; and

5           WHEREAS, In 1955, three police officers, Chief of Police Jack  
6 Stults and Officers A. D. Tucker and J. W. Golden, with one vehicle  
7 and a radio signal from the Dallas sheriff's office, were hired to  
8 provide police services for the 5,000 citizens in Richardson; and

9           WHEREAS, Two years later, Officer Golden assumed the title of  
10 chief of police, and the city added three officers and one  
11 additional vehicle; this expansion enabled the provision of  
12 around-the-clock service, and over the next 20 years the department  
13 grew steadily so that in 1975 it included 80 personnel and 25  
14 vehicles, accommodating a population that had increased to more  
15 than 50,000; and

16           WHEREAS, Ken Yarbrough was named chief of police in 1975, and  
17 he served in that position for 27 years; under his leadership, the  
18 department continued to grow, and today it includes 145 police  
19 officers, 94 civilian employees, and 40 appointed citizen  
20 volunteers, serving a population of over 94,000 residents; and

21           WHEREAS, The current chief of police, Larry Zacharias,  
22 continues to strengthen the department's commitment to integrity  
23 and outstanding community service with such initiatives as the  
24 Citizen Volunteer Program, which gives residents the opportunity to

1 work side by side with police officers, and with the continuation of  
2 one of the oldest formal school resource officer programs in Texas;  
3 and

4 WHEREAS, The Richardson Police Department has distinguished  
5 itself as an agency of notable professionalism; it was named the  
6 Outstanding Crime Prevention Unit in Texas for its population  
7 category in 2004, and its commitment to the safety of area citizens  
8 certainly merits special praise; now, therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas  
10 Legislature hereby commemorate the 50th anniversary of the  
11 Richardson Police Department and extend sincere best wishes to the  
12 department's officers and citizen volunteers; and, be it further

13 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
14 prepared for the Richardson Police Department as an expression of  
15 high regard by the Texas House of Representatives.