SAMPLE PROCLAMATION NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release (Date)

For Further Information:
(Your name)
(Your daytime telephone number)

MAYOR DECLARES D.A.R.E. DAY IN (<u>YOUR CITY</u>)

 $(\underline{\text{City/State}})$ – Mayor (name) today declared D.A.R.E. Day in (your city) – joining together with thousands of communities in all 50 states in celebrating the 20^{th} anniversary of the largest and most comprehensive drug education and violence prevention program in the country.

"The D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) program is teaching our young people the skills they need to resist peer pressure to use drugs and alcohol or joining gangs," said mayor (name). "Based on the results I've seen, this is a program that works – allowing our young people to grow up in a drug-free environment."

"We applaud the efforts of our schools and law enforcement in developing the D.A.R.E. program to reach our children <u>before</u> they get caught in the web of self-destruction," he continued.

In (your city) the D.A.R.E. program is currently taught at (number) elementary schools including (name schools). More than (number) local students graduate from the D.A.R.E. program each year.

In recognition of D.A.R.E. Day, President George W. Bush signed a congressional proclamation identifying (date) as National D.A.R.E. Day. In addition, ceremonies and rallies were planned in hundreds of cities across the country.

D.A.R.E. is a police officer-led prevention program that teaches kindergartners through twelfth graders how to resist unwanted peer pressure to use drugs and alcohol and join gangs. According to independent studies, the program has proven to be effective in reducing drug activity, vandalism and gang violence while improving children's grades and study habits.

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2-2-2 D.A.R.E. Day

D.A.R.E. was established in 1983. Since 1983, D.A.R.E. program has positively impacted more than 36 million students in all 50 states and 54 countries around the world.