



Oakland Police Department

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MEDIA ADVISORY

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OAKLAND CITY COUNCILMEMBER LARRY REID DEDICATES LOCAL PARK TO OAKLAND POLICE OFFICER KILLED BY FRIENDLY FIRE

Park Dedication To Honor Officer William “Willie” Wilkins

OAKLAND, September 16—Oakland City Councilmember Larry Reid and the Oakland Police Officers’ Association will officially dedicate the William “Willie” Wilkins Memorial Park to fallen Oakland Police Officer William Wilkins. The dedication will take place on September 16, 2004 at 1:00 p.m. The park, located at 98th Avenue and B Street, was formerly known as “Elmhurst Plaza.” Councilmember Reid requested that the name of the park be changed to the William “Willie” Wilkins Memorial Park. According to Councilmember Reid, “the dedication of this park is to honor an officer who spent seven years working to make our community a safe place for us to live and raise our children.” The Park and Recreation Advisory Commission officially approved the renaming of the park on March 28, 2001.

Those expected to be in attendance are family members of Officer Wilkins, City of Oakland Mayor Jerry Brown, Vice Mayor Henry Chang, Oakland City Councilmember Larry Reid, Oakland City Council President Ignacio De La Fuente, City of Oakland Parks and Recreation Director Audree Jones-Taylor, Oakland Police Chief Richard Word, and Oakland Police Officers’ Association President Robert Valladon.

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According to Oakland Police Chief Richard Word, “The dedication of a park in Willie's name is certainly befitting of someone with his energy and enthusiasm. Willie was a dedicated police officer who patrolled the area surrounding the park for several years. I am so very thankful for the Oakland Police Officers' Association and the City Council, especially Councilmember Larry Reid, for making this happen. Willie and his family will always be in our thoughts and prayers. We miss him greatly.”

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