



Abilene Police Department

## News Release

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### **Abilene's Police Chief Participates in Law Enforcement Exchange Program in Israel**

ABILENE, TX – In 2002, the Jewish Institute for National Security Affairs (JINSA) in cooperation with the Israel National Police, the Israel Ministry of Internal Security, and the Israel Security Agency, created The Law Enforcement Exchange Program (LEEP). The purpose of the program is to support and strengthen American law enforcement counter terrorism practices. LEEP takes delegations of senior law enforcement executives to Israel to study methods and observe best practices utilized in preventing and reacting to acts of terrorism. The knowledge gained ensures that American communities are better prepared to deal with the realities of terrorism.

Abilene Police Chief Stan Standridge was selected by the Texas Police Chief's Association to represent the State of Texas in this program. From November 15 to November 24, 2015, Chief Standridge attended high-level briefings by police, military and intelligence services, saw demonstrations, visited terrorism sites throughout the State, and traveled to Amman, Jordan, for a briefing with His Royal Highness Prince Feisal Ibn Al-Hussein and the Chief of the General Staff of the Jordanian Military. Chief Standridge and the delegation were able to interview two terrorism prisoners housed at the Hadarim Prison, including Marwan Barghouti. This interview shed light on the ongoing fight for land.

Law enforcement executives from the following agencies joined Chief Standridge on the trip: Miami PD; US Customs and Border Protection; Florida Highway Patrol; Pennsylvania State Police; NYPD; Stanislaus County, California; Monroe County, Georgia; Western States Sheriff's Association; LA County Sheriff's Department; DEA; Travis County Sheriff's Office, Texas

This program has been a product of the Jewish Institute for National Security Affairs and was created after September 11<sup>th</sup> to help local law enforcement learn valuable lessons from Israeli law enforcement in their fight against terrorism. The trip was fully funded by JINSA.

Stan Standridge, Chief of Police | 450 Pecan | Abilene, TX | 79602

*"We work together to build a community of the highest quality for present and future generations"*

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Abilene Police  
Department

"You are the  
first line of  
defense  
against crime"

Chief Standridge offered, *"I enjoyed the Holy Sites, but the highlight of this trip was the Israeli people. They absolutely desire peace, and they welcomed our delegation with open hearts and minds. I never felt afraid, as proven by my first task once arriving in Jerusalem was running 5 miles at 4 am through the lovely streets. I envisioned a State of barren hills with many high-rise buildings. What I found were beautiful, modern communities with rich history. Israel remains a strong American partner, and I am thankful for the opportunity to have gained new friends and experienced policing in a completely different light. I am a better police chief today because of JINSA's law enforcement exchange program."*

Respectfully,  
Sgt. Lynn Beard