



# *Milpitas Police Department*

*Dennis Graham  
Chief of Police*

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **For Immediate Release**

The City of Milpitas will be conducting an Every 15 Minutes Program on April 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> 2012. The Every 15 Minutes program is a two-day program focusing on high school seniors, which challenges them to think about drinking, driving, personal safety, the responsibility of making mature decisions and the impact their decisions have on family, friends, and many others.

Students will witness the extrication of victims from a simulated DUI traffic collision who will then be transported, via helicopter, to Santa Clara Valley Medical Center where they will follow steps to attempt to save the patient which will ultimately be unsuccessful. Traditionally this program focuses on the morbid effects of teen drinking and driving. A unique *first-of-its-kind* element has been added to this particular event. The participants will not only see the deadly effects, but will witness the surviving effects of driving under the influence. They will tour the Santa Clara County Valley Medical Center's Spinal/Neurological Unit, Brain Injury Unit and Critical Intensive Care Unit to see first-hand the devastating effects of teen drinking. There will also be a panel of disabled people sharing their story with the participants at the conclusion of the April 18<sup>th</sup> activities. On April 19<sup>th</sup> the program will conclude with a keynote presentation to the entire senior class of Milpitas High School and to those who participated in the previous day's events.

This program is in partnership with the City of Milpitas Police, Office of Emergency Services, Fire Department, and Milpitas High School, along with the Milpitas Unified School District, CALSTAR, Rural Metro Ambulance, Santa Clara County Valley Medical Center, Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office and the Santa Clara County Coroner's Office.

The program's name -- "Every 15 Minutes" is derived from the fact that in the 1990's someone in the U.S. died in an alcohol-related traffic collision every 15 minutes. The implementation of state laws and community programs has reduced this statistic to every 30 minutes -- a figure that is still unacceptable.

For further information please contact Sean Simonson with the Milpitas Office of Emergency Services at 408-586-2810.