



Press Release

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10-16-07

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PRESS RELEASE # 000

Subject : Redondo Beach Police Department retires canine "Kirby".

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The Redondo Beach Police Department celebrated the six year career of police canine "Kirby" tonight in a ceremony at the beginning of the Redondo Beach City Council Meeting. Mayor Mike Gin provided an overview of canine Kirby's accomplishments and presented her with a retirement canine badge and a new chew toy. The retirement ceremony was attended by many Redondo Beach residents who showed up to wish Kirby well on her final day of work for the City of Redondo Beach.

Canine Kirby was born in Arizona in January of 2000 where she lived with a family that cared for her as a puppy. After a few short months it was apparent that Kirby had the drive and desire to get out in the world and start training for a career in public service. Kirby began training as a search and rescue dog in the deserts of Arizona and continued with this training until early 2001. In early 2001, the family that was caring for Kirby was no longer able to care for Kirby and sought out a trainer that would take in this spectacular dog. Kirby was relocated to Bakersfield, CA where she began training as a narcotics dog. As soon as her training began, it was apparent that Kirby had everything needed to become an outstanding narcotics detection canine.

In May of 2001, Redondo Beach Police Officer Kevin McCamy was sent to canine school where he met Kirby and started to bond immediately. Officer McCamy and Kirby trained together for several weeks, graduating from the training school in June 2001. Kirby has spent the past six years working for the Redondo Beach Police Department detecting narcotics for police agencies all over southern California.

During Kirby's illustrious six year career she worked in the Special Investigations Unit for three years and in patrol for three years. In the six years that Kirby served the City of Redondo Beach, she had over 700 narcotic searches which resulted in the recovery of over \$100,000 in US currency, 400 pounds of Marijuana, 33 kilos of Cocaine, 5 pounds of Methamphetamine, 4 pounds of Heroin and over 5000 Ecstasy pills. Kirby also won many awards while competing in various canine competitions.

Kirby will be enjoying her retirement at the home of Officer Kevin McCamy where she will lounge and play while reflecting on her many great successes as a police canine.