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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT:

Ingrid Holmes
Director, Health Department
409-832-4000
iholmes@ci.beaumont.tx.us

**CITY OF BEAUMONT BATTLES ILLEGAL DUMPING
Increased patrols target after-hours violators**

In an effort to curb illegal dumping, the Code Enforcement Division of the city's Health Department is adding evening patrols beginning immediately.

It is illegal to dispose of personal trash on someone else's property. The department's seven officers will issue citations to anyone caught dumping trash illegally. Fines range from \$50 to \$1,000 for the first offense, and \$100 to \$1,000 for the second and future offenses.

"If we catch them red-handed, we can definitely ticket them," says Joyce Tanner, Code Enforcement Manager. "We need people to stop dumping trash to keep our city clean."

Citizens have a number of options if they have bulk trash to dispose of. Bulk trash is collected twice monthly curbside at no charge, and includes large yard waste, furniture, appliances, and miscellaneous heavy debris. The landfill is available to all citizens at no charge with proof of residency in the form of a water bill. Private contractors should take all debris to the landfill.

For more information on the city's waste management program, including a schedule of curbside bulk trash pickup by ZIP code, visit www.cityofbeaumont.com/clean_comm.htm. For more information on the city's efforts to keep Beaumont clean and litter-free, visit www.fightdirtybeaumont.com. To report violators, call 311.