



REQUEST FOR COVERAGE

May 5, 2009

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Trading in brass badges for blue scrubs

SAPD & SAFD Chiefs step into the shoes of a nurse

BACKGROUND: San Antonio Police Chief William McManus and San Antonio Fire Chief Charles Hood can definitely relate to University Hospital's lifesaving mission, but can they "cut it" as nurses? On Wednesday, May 6, Chief McManus and Chief Hood will trade in their badges and uniforms for a pair of scrubs and crocs, and join a group of hospital administrators who will be literally "stepping into the shoes" of a nurse for a few hours. As part of University Health System's Nurses' Week celebration, each person will experience first-hand what it means to be a nurse in a busy academic medical center. Chief McManus will be assigned to the Cardiac Cath Lab and Chief Hood will be headed to the busy ER.



University Health System is home to more than **1,500** registered nurses and LVNs. Often described as an art and a science, nurses have many roles – staff nurse, educator, nurse practitioner and nurse researcher. All serve with a passion for the profession and a strong commitment to patient safety.

National Nurses Week is celebrated in May, in honor of the birthday of Florence Nightingale, the founder of modern nursing. University Health System's theme this year is *Keeping Our Community Healthy*.

WHO: San Antonio Police Chief William McManus
San Antonio Fire Chief Charles Hood
University Hospital nurses and administrators

WHEN: Wednesday, May 6 at 10 a.m.

WHERE: University Hospital, 4502 Medical Drive
(Meet in Corporate Communications, first floor, main entrance)

PHOTO OPPORTUNITY

Videotape the chiefs and administrators "walking in the shoes" of nurses from 10–11 a.m. At 11 a.m. all involved will gather to discuss their experiences.