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NEWS RELEASE
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OFFICIALS DEDICATE POLICE TRAINING COMPLEX

(Lawrenceville, Ga., June 26, 2007) – Gwinnett Police put their brand new, \$25-million training facility into official operation following a ribbon cutting ceremony today. The nearly 50-acre facility is at 854 Winder Highway (U.S. 29) in Lawrenceville.

Police Chief Charles Walters said, “This state-of-the-art facility is among the best in the country and we’re very proud of it. It will help us continue to put the best trained officers on the streets of Gwinnett County.” The facility includes a driver training course, 44 indoor firing ranges, a “green” classroom building, and special conditions simulators.

The state requires 404 hours of training before becoming a certified peace officer in Georgia. Gwinnett County has long required an additional 365 hours to graduate from its highly-regarded Police Academy. Ten full-time instructors and more than 100 specialized, part-time instructors conduct training classes for new recruits and experienced officers in Gwinnett. The County hired a record 133 new officers in 2006.

The classroom facility is a 28,630-square-foot, one-story building with six classrooms, a defensive tactics training area, fitness training area, driving and special conditions simulators and office space for the training and administrative staff. It is Gwinnett County’s second building that meets the U.S. Green Building Council, LEED Certification Standards.

The 88,000-square-foot firing range facility features 44 indoor ranges, varying from 25 to 100 yards. The driver training course simulates many situations that Gwinnett police officers encounter in the field, including urban traffic lights, uneven surfaces, undulating roads, and a skid pad to practice turning and stopping with varied road conditions.

Pond & Company is the architectural firm responsible for the design of the complex. The Potts Company built the facility, and United Consulting conducted geotechnical testing on the site.

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