

# **PRESS RELEASE**

## **El Mirage Begins Photo Radar System at Intersections**

The City of El Mirage is in the final phase of implementing fixed photo radar systems at three signalized intersections in the city. The Police Department is confident that the system will enhance the level of safety for motorists at the high volume intersections of El Mirage Rd. & Olive Ave., Northern Ave. & El Mirage Rd. and 129<sup>th</sup> Ave. & Thunderbird Rd. The Redflex Photo Radar systems will monitor vehicles that run red lights, as well as vehicles speeding through the intersections.

For the past month, Redflex has been installing their equipment at the three intersections. Technicians will begin testing the systems at each intersection on Friday, July 24, 2009. The city plans to go "live" on Monday, July 27, 2009. For the first 30 days violators will receive a written warning for red light and/or speeding violations. After the 30-day warning period violators will receive actual citations. The police department will review every violation prior to sending out a citation.

Each year, nearly 1,000 fatalities in the United States are the direct result of collisions caused by red light running. Across the nation, communities are significantly reducing the number of deaths and injuries from red light offenses simply by implementing red light cameras. In addition to saving lives, red light cameras also yield significant cost savings to motorists and the community. The City of El Mirage is hopeful the photo red light program will result in fewer property damage claims, lower insurance premiums, reduced medical expenses, and increased productivity for those commuting through these intersections.

Red-light accidents are typically side impact crashes, causing the most severe damage, injuries and fatalities. Through the photo radar system, the City of El Mirage expects to see a significant reduction of speeders and red-light related accidents at these intersections. The El Mirage Police Department will monitor the accident rates over the next several months and evaluate the effectiveness of the photo radar system.

For questions, please view the Photo Enforcement FAQs at [www.cityofelmirage.org/PhotoEnforcement](http://www.cityofelmirage.org/PhotoEnforcement) or contact Police Administration at 623-433-9500