



**Operation SMART
East Palo Alto Police, Menlo Park Police, and Palo Alto Police**

Press Release

Police Contact: **Officer Veronica Barries,**
East Palo Alto Police Dept.

Phone: **650-521-1938**

Protect Our Children, Inc. Contact:

Elizabeth Poeschl

E-mail: **Elizabeth.Poeschl@edelman.com**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 21, 2013 at 6:15 p.m.**

Press Conference Announcement: Tri-City Gun Buy Back Event

Palo Alto, CA -- The news media is cordially invited to a press conference at the conclusion of the tri-city anonymous gun buy back event on Saturday, February 23, 2013 at 2:30 p.m. at the East Palo Alto City Hall at 2415 University Avenue in East Palo Alto.

The three speakers at the press conference will be Chief Ron Davis of the East Palo Alto Police Department, San Mateo County District Attorney Stephen Wagstaffe, and Roger Lee from Protect Our Children, Inc. Firearms collected during the event will be available for viewing. The press conference is anticipated to last 15 to 20 minutes.

In addition to the three speakers at the press conference, other local dignitaries in attendance during the event may include elected officials from the three involved cities and the police chiefs from both Menlo Park and Palo Alto. Congresswoman Anna Eshoo and Assemblyman Richard Gordon have also lent their support to the event, and Assemblyman Gordon will be in attendance. These dignitaries may also be available for interviews during the event itself, which starts at 10 a.m. and runs until 2 p.m.

The uniqueness of this particular gun buy back event is centered on the collaboration between a local non-profit organization and three police departments that span two counties. No public money is being given in exchange for firearms; rather, all cash dispensed at the event has been raised by Protect Our Children, Inc. from private donations made by members of the local community.

For more information about the gun buy back event itself, please go to www.cityofpaloalto.org/GBB.

Media representatives attending the press conference are respectfully asked to RSVP to the designated public information officer for the event, Officer Veronica Barries from the East Palo Alto Police Department. She can be reached at 650-521-1938 or via e-mail at vbarries@cityofepa.org.

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