



Adrian M. Fenty, Mayor
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 16, 2008

Dennis L. Rubin, Fire Chief
CONTACT: PIO 202.673.3331

Mayor Fenty, Darryl Green Kick Off EMS Week Activities

Week-Long Activities Celebrate Dedication, Professionalism of EMS

(Washington, DC) – Mayor Adrian M. Fenty and former Washington Redskin Darryl Green will join DC Fire & EMS Chief Dennis L. Rubin and the Attending Physician to Congress Dr. John Eleisold on Monday May 19th in a kick off celebration for Emergency Medical Services Week activities in the District. The DC Fire & EMS Department is proud to offer an array of free services all week long in organized events to bring attention to the great work being done by EMS providers every day.

Also attending the ceremony are two very special guests: Shalita Robertson and her five-month-old son Mahkel, who, without the quick thinking and quality medical services provided by DC Fire & EMS firefighters and paramedics, might not be alive today. Mahkel was born December 9th of last year at his home on East Capitol Street, Northeast. When members of Paramedic Engine 27, Engine 30 and Medic 27 arrived, Mahkel was not breathing, and he was unresponsive. Medics quickly went to work helping him breathe and applying stimulation techniques to bring him around. By the time he reached Prince George's Hospital Center, Mahkel was breathing on his own and had a pulse. What a great story! But similar stories happen every day in the DC Fire & EMS Department.

“Our commitment to this community is far stronger than merely responding to emergencies,” said Chief Rubin. “We stand with the Department of Health, local hospitals and other professional providers of health care in reaching out to our community and helping protect in all aspects of citizens’ lives.”

- more -

**EMS WEEK
PAGE – 2**

In addition to the kick off celebration, DC Fire & EMS health professionals will be conducting blood pressure and glucose screenings at Metro stations, libraries, schools and other public places all week long. A schedule of those events is attached.

The theme of this year's EMS Week (May 19 – 24) is 'Your Life is Our Mission'. EMS Week brings together local communities and medical personnel to publicize safety and honor the dedication of those who provide the day-to-day lifesaving services of medicine's "front line."

WHAT: EMS Week Kick off

WHEN: Monday, May 19, 2008 – 10:00 AM

WHERE: North Senate Park – North Capitol & D Streets, Northeast

The mission of the DC Fire & EMS Department is to promote safety and health through excellent pre-hospital medical care, fire suppression, hazardous materials response, technical rescue, homeland security preparedness, and fire prevention and education in the District of Columbia.

***Rain location: Inside the US Capitol – Room HC-5**

###

1923 Vermont Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20005 Telephone: (202) 673-3331 Fax: (202) 673-3188