



September 10, 2025

Chief Kristal Munoz,

Cardiac Arrest effects over 350,000 Americans every year and usually proves fatal. Survival of cardiac arrest outside of a hospital setting is estimated at less than 10%. Early, effective chest compressions and timely defibrillation are essential cornerstones in the Chain of Survival, a systematic approach to lifesaving treatments of patients in cardiac arrest.

On May 17, 2025, Law Enforcement officers from Rollingwood and West Lake Hills Police Departments responded to assist Fire and EMS for one such patient and were the first to the scene.

Officer Aaron Bruns quickly initiated high-quality chest compressions while another officer applied an AED and delivered a shock to the patient prior to the arrival of Fire and EMS. The immediate actions performed by Officer Bruns were crucial to the Chain of Survival and restoring the patient's pulse.

Due to the efforts of all first responders, including Officer Bruns, this patient was discharged just days later from St David's- South Austin Medical Center with no long-term negative effects.

Respectfully,

Heidi Abraham, MD  
Chief Deputy Medical Director  
Office of the Chief Medical Officer, City of Austin

CC: Dr. Mark E. Escott, Chief Medical Officer  
Dr. Melissa Miller, Associate Medical Director