



Media Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 8, 2019

Troup County Intersection Naming Ceremony Honoring Fallen Soldier Set for July 11

Troup County, Ga. July 8, 2019 – Troup County, in coordination with the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT), is set to name the intersection of US29/SR14 West Point Road at Pegasus Parkway on Thursday, July 11, 2019 in honor of U.S. Army Sergeant Corey Emmett Spates, a fallen soldier from Troup County, Georgia.

Spates, a citizen of Troup County and a soldier in the Armed Forces of the United States of America, gave his life in service during Operation Iraqi Freedom. A Troup High School alumni and lifelong resident of LaGrange, he was just twenty one years old when he gave his life. A true hero, during his first deployment, he enlisted help from his family to donate school supplies to Iraqi children in need. He and his newly-wedded wife, Celeste, resided in Temple, Texas until he departed on his final deployment to Iraq, where he was killed on Sunday, February 10, 2008.

In February 2019, the Troup County Board of Commissioners endorsed the request of GDOT to name the intersection in honor of Sergeant Spates. At that time, Commission Chairman Patrick Crews presented Spates' family with a special resolution that declared the official endorsement from Troup County to name the intersection in his great honor and memory at the request of State Representative Randy Nix and GDOT.

A service will be held at 10:00AM at Western Heights Baptist Church, located at 2382 West Point Rd, LaGrange, GA 30240, to commemorate the life of Sergeant Spates before the official roadside unveiling ceremony. The service will feature Speakers State Representative Randy Nix, previous Western Heights Baptist Church Lead Pastor Greg Brown, and GDOT District 3 Communications Officer Penny Brooks, who will present the resolution dedication in honor of the official naming of the intersection to the Spates' family. Afterward, a roadside unveiling ceremony will take place at the Pegasus Parkway portion of the intersection to unveil the signs.

The public is invited and encouraged to attend in order to honor Sergeant Spates and his family; however, please note that there will be limited space at the roadside unveiling ceremony.

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