FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Guns ‘N Hoses announces record donation to The BackStoppers
The $900,000 record gift supports families of those who die or suffer a catastrophic-injury in the line of duty

ST. LOUIS (Feb. 19, 2020): The Guns ‘N Hoses Boxing Association announced a record donation of $900,000 to The BackStoppers, a nonprofit organization that assists families of first responders who die or suffer a catastrophic injury in the line of duty. The donation was made possible thanks to proceeds generated from the 33rd annual Budweiser Guns ‘N Hoses boxing event held at the Enterprise Center Nov. 27, 2019.

The donation was announced to The BackStoppers during a check presentation ceremony at the Enterprise Center with representatives from The BackStoppers and Guns ‘N Hoses boards of directors, as well as fire and police personnel from St. Louis City and County. This is the fourth consecutive year the event has increased its donation to The BackStoppers. The previous records were $653,000 in 2017, $700,000 in 2018 and $800,000 in 2019.

“We are proud to continue to support the great work being done by The BackStoppers,” said David Stokes, president of the Guns ‘N Hoses Boxing Association. “We hope this donation will make a difference in the lives of those who have lost loved ones in the line of duty. Today’s donation marks nearly $8.5 million we’ve raised for The BackStoppers. I’m proud of this achievement and thankful for all of our loyal and generous supporters who made this milestone a reality.”

In November, Budweiser Guns ‘N Hoses sold out the Enterprise Center for the fourth straight year. For the sixth consecutive year, the Blue team defeated the Red team 9-6.

Prior to the bouts, seven first responders were honored with their portrait in the ring. A member from their department stood nearby to honor their sacrifice by reading their name aloud and the date of their passing. Afterwards, the ceremonial “Ten-Count” was performed by Elizabeth Tucker, Guns ‘N Hoses Board Member and widow of St. Louis County Police Officer Blake Snyder who was killed in the line of duty October 2016. She was joined onstage with family members and friends of the seven first responders being honored in the ring.

“Without the support of Guns ‘N Hoses we would not be able to support the families who unfortunately have lost loved ones,” said Chief Ron Battelle, executive director of The BackStoppers. “This donation will allow us to continue to provide the level of support our families need and to be a safety net for those families who lose a family member in the line of duty.”

continued
Guns ‘N Hoses announces record donation to The BackStoppers / Feb 19, 2020 / Page 2 of 2

About The BackStoppers
After a loss of life or catastrophic injury, The BackStoppers provide money for emergency expenses and later arrange to pay bills, mortgages, debts, college costs and other expenses for families. Founded in 1959, The BackStoppers cover St. Louis City, the Missouri counties of St. Louis, St. Charles, Cape Girardeau, Franklin, Jefferson, Lincoln, Perry, Pike, St. Francois, Ste. Genevieve, Warren and Washington and the Illinois counties of Bond, Clinton, Madison, Monroe and St. Clair. The BackStoppers also cover members of Troop C of the Missouri Highway Patrol and District 11 of the Illinois State Police. To learn more, visit www.backstoppers.org.

About Guns ‘N Hoses
Guns ‘N Hoses is presented by the nonprofit St. Louis Guns ‘N Hoses Boxing Association and is sponsored by Budweiser and Grey Eagle Distributors, the Anheuser-Busch wholesaler in St. Louis County. Since its inception in 1987, Budweiser Guns ‘N Hoses has raised $8.5 million to benefit The BackStoppers, a nonprofit organization that assists families of first responders who have died in the line of duty. To learn more, visit www.stlgunsnhoses.com.

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