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MAYOR

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### Send-Off Celebration for Tokyo Paralympians

**{August 9, 2021 – Pasadena, TX}** The City of Pasadena and the TIRR Memorial Hermann Adapted Sport program are hosting a send-off celebration for several local athletes as they leave to represent the United States in the 2020 Tokyo Paralympic Games. The athletes represent a variety of sports and all have local ties to the Houston area through TIRR Memorial Hermann and Pasadena's Verne Cox Adaptive Recreation Center. The outdoor presentation will take place on the world's first officially-built wheelchair softball field.

Texas to Tokyo 2021 Send-off Celebration

August 12

6:30 p.m.-7:15 p.m.

Verne Cox Center

5200 Burke Road

Pasadena, TX 77504

Athletes being honored: Jazmin Ryan (Team USA -Shooting), Jullian Williams Coffe and Kari Ortiz (Team USA -Women's Sitting Volleyball), Kaitlyn Eaton (Team USA -Women's Wheelchair Basketball), Chuck French (Team USA -Wheelchair Rugby Staff), Ileana Rodrigiez (Team USA Paralympic Swimming Team).

Dignitaries in attendance include representatives from Harris County-Houston Sports Authority, TIRR Memorial Hermann, Harris County Fire Marshal's Office, and Pasadena Mayor, Jeff Wagner.

The public is invited to this free outdoor, socially-distanced, event. Seating and shady areas are limited; lawn chairs, sunscreen and personal water bottles are recommended. Organizers are also encouraging visitors to bring their USA flags and wear red, white and blue!

**Pasadena's Verne Cox Multipurpose Recreation Center** is a major training facility for athletes with disabilities. The center also provides affordable recreation programming, innovative therapeutic recreation services and an outlet to promote healthy use of leisure time for people with disabilities.

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