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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Warning Period for Red Light Cameras Begins September 15, 2008**

**Cleveland, TN – August 15, 2008**– The City of Cleveland’s first set of red light enforcement cameras installed at the intersections of 25<sup>th</sup> Street at Peerless Road, Keith Street at 20<sup>th</sup> Street and Keith Street at Raider Drive will began operating Monday, September 15, 2008. For the next 30 days motorists who violate the red lights at these three locations will receive a warning Notice of Citation in the mail. Enforcement will officially begin on Wednesday October 15, 2008 and fines will be issued. Additional camera locations will be announced at a later date.

Road crashes are a prime cause of death and disability and red-light running is a common cause of crashes at signalized intersections. Red-light cameras are increasingly used to promote compliance with traffic signals. City Manager Janice Casteel and Police Chief Wes Snyder support the effort to reduce accidents. “All too often our citizens are being critically and sometimes fatality injured by people failing to obey traffic signals. We are hoping that the cameras will send a clear message to motorists to pay attention and comply with traffic signals. According to the most recent Tennessee Highway Patrol statistics (2007), 49 accidents occurred at these three locations, most caused by drivers running electrical signals,” said Chief Snyder.

The cameras are triggered by sensors activated when a vehicle runs a red light. Two digital photos are taken which document the violation. The citation and violation photos are then mailed to the registered owner of the vehicle. Citations paid within 30 days will cost \$50; delinquent citations will cost \$154.75 which includes court cost and state litigation tax. Tickets issued under the ordinance will not affect the driver’s record. The cameras operate 24 hours a day and in all weather conditions. The automated red light enforcement system is operated by Traffipax, Inc.

**---Office of the City Manager August 15, 2008---**