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Former Homeless Houston Veteran Selected to Receive Vehicle Donation

Recycled Rides Vehicle Unveiling

Thursday, September 17 – 11:00 am

Caliber Collision-Pasadena

3939 Pansy St. | Pasadena, TX 77505

HOUSTON, TX (September 17, 2015) – Several years ago, after losing his job, U.S. Army veteran Pedro Ramirez’s car was his home. In a special ceremony at Caliber Collision-Pasadena Center, Ramirez will be receiving keys to a completely refurbished car to help him earn a living and restore him to the rhythm of his life.

The vehicle donation from Caliber Collision and Farmers InsuranceSM is part of the National Auto Body Council’s Recycled RidesTM, a nationwide program where auto body repair facilities, insurance companies, parts and material suppliers team up to repair and donate vehicles to individuals and service organizations in need.

Ramirez will be receiving a 2012 Chevrolet Malibu donated by Farmers InsuranceSM and restored by Caliber Collision technicians who volunteered their time and talent as service to their local community.

Ramirez was nominated for the vehicle donation by U.S. Veterans Initiative of Houston. After losing his job, he faced some personal hardships – including the devastating loss of a close family member - that eventually resulted in him living out of his vehicle that is no longer operable. Pedro turned to U.S. Veterans Initiative and with the organization’s support, found temporary employment, and has since been able to find and maintain stable housing.

“At Caliber Collision, our highest purpose is to restore our customers and the communities we serve to the rhythm of their lives. We thank Mr. Ramirez for his service to our country, and we are honored to provide this gift of reliable transportation to help him continue on his path to a better life,” said Todd Dillender, Caliber Collision Senior Vice President of Operations.

With the skills he developed in the Army as a specialist in radio operations, communications and computers, Ramirez has been able to find work as a contract IT technician. Without a vehicle, he has been limited to only accepting jobs that are close and on his bus route. A reliable vehicle of his own would enable Ramirez to accept many more contract IT projects while significantly increasing his annual income.

“Lack of transportation is often the largest barrier for individuals rebuilding their lives,” said Pete Hickey, National Claims Manager for Farmers InsuranceSM. “We commend Mr. Ramirez for his resilience in and determination to overcome obstacles in his life. We are pleased to team up with Caliber Collision to provide this vehicle to a U.S. veteran in need, and wish him nothing but success in his personal and professional life.”

As part of the Recycled Rides presentation, Farmers InsuranceSM will also showcase its Mobile Claims Center (MCC). The mobile unit travels to disaster sites and serves as a virtual claims office to help customers in need start their journey back to a normal life. High-speed Internet access, wireless workstations and portable printers allow Farmers[®] claims representatives to help customers file claims, receive emergency funds checks and accept settlement payments. A satellite television on the side of each bus allows visitors to see news and weather updates.

In the past three years, Caliber Collision has donated more than 75 Recycled Ride vehicles nationwide. Caliber plans on donating more than 25 vehicles in 2015 to individuals in need as a way to give back to the communities that Caliber serves.

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About Caliber Collision Centers

Caliber Collision is one of the largest collision repair companies in America with 319 I-CAR Gold Class Professional certified collision repair centers across 13 states. Caliber is consistently ranked among the highest customer satisfaction scores in the industry and backs all repair work with a written, lifetime warranty available at any of its 316 repair centers. For more information about Caliber Collision, please visit our website at www.calibercollision.com and follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [YouTube](#).

About Farmers Insurance

Farmers Insurance Group of Companies is a leading U.S. insurer group of automobiles, homes and small businesses and also provides a wide range of other insurance and financial services products. Farmers Insurance is proud to serve more than 10 million households with over 19 million individual policies across all 50 states through the efforts of over 50,000 exclusive and independent agents and approximately 22,000 employees. Farmers Insurance Exchange, the largest of the three primary insurance entities that make up the Farmers Insurance Group of Companies[®], is ranked No. 264 on the 2015 Fortune 500 list of largest companies.

For more information about Farmers, visit its Web site at www.farmers.com or at www.Facebook.com/FarmersInsurance .