

# Information Release

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From: **Jewelers Mutual Insurance Company**, 24 Jewelers Park Dr., P.O. Box 468, Neenah, WI 54957-0468. Phone 800-558-6411. Fax: 920-725-9401. [JewelersMutual.com](http://JewelersMutual.com)

Contact: **Ben Festge**, marketing communications specialist, 800-558-6411, extension 2147, [bfestge@jminsure.com](mailto:bfestge@jminsure.com)

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Jewelers Mutual Insurance Company commends Texas law enforcement for nabbing watch crooks**

**AUSTIN, Texas** - On Thursday, August 25, Jewelers Mutual Insurance Company commended law enforcement officers for capturing suspects linked to a rash of jewelry store armed robberies in McAllen, Austin, and San Antonio, Texas. To show its appreciation, Jewelers Mutual donated \$5,000 to the Texas Department of Public Safety's memorial foundation.

"We are grateful for the courageous and relentless efforts demonstrated by the taskforce involved with this case," remarked Darwin Copeman, president and CEO of Jewelers Mutual Insurance Company.

The crime spree ended when Texas State Trooper James Hicks conducted a traffic stop on I-35 near Waco, Texas. After Trooper Hicks asked the car's occupants a few routine questions, his training and experience led him to become suspicious and probe further. His questioning resulted in the recovery of nearly 100 stolen high-end watches. In total, the suspects were linked to over \$1.5 million in stolen merchandise traced to several jewelry store burglaries throughout Texas.

The FBI is conducting further investigation and indicates that a taskforce is closing in on the remaining suspects tied to the robberies.

"I'm impressed by how Jewelers Mutual plays such an active role in promoting loss prevention and safety within their industry through regularly working alongside law enforcement," said one private investigator, who asked to remain anonymous because of his ongoing investigative work.

Since Jewelers Mutual's founding in 1913, the organization has teamed with law enforcement agencies to promote awareness and safety within the jewelry industry. Jewelers Mutual's \$5,000 donation will help fund the Texas Law Enforcement Memorial Wall, which honors the 85 state troopers in the organization's history who have died in the line of duty.

#### **About Jewelers Mutual Insurance Company**

Jewelers Mutual Insurance Company is the only company specializing exclusively in jewelry insurance in the United States and Canada. The company's strong financial position is reflected in its 24 consecutive A+ Superior ratings from A.M. Best. Jewelers Mutual was founded in 1913 in Neenah, Wis., by jewelers seeking to meet their unique insurance needs. Today, Jewelers Mutual insures manufacturers, repair businesses, bench jewelers, custom designers, retailers, artisans, appraisers, wholesalers, and individuals. More than 10,000 commercial policyholders trust Jewelers Mutual to insure their jewelry businesses, and more than 225,000 individual policyholders carry in excess of \$3 billion in personal jewelry insurance coverage. Visit the Jewelers Mutual website at [www.JewelersMutual.com](http://www.JewelersMutual.com) to learn more.

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