

City of Killeen Issues Statement Following Death of Fort Hood Soldiers in Helicopter Crash

KILLEEN, Texas (August 14, 2026) – City of Killeen Mayor Joseph Solomon issued the following statement following the deaths of two Fort Hood soldiers in the Apache helicopter crash near Salado.

“On behalf of the City of Killeen, we extend our deepest condolences to the families, friends and fellow Troopers of Chief Warrant Officer 2 Deontre T. Huey and Warrant Officer Seth L. Olmstead, who were tragically lost in Wednesday’s helicopter crash near Salado.

Both men were residents of Bell County, and Chief Warrant Officer 2 Huey called Killeen home. They proudly served with Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 227th Aviation Regiment, 1st Air Cavalry Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division.

Their service, sacrifice and commitment — like that of every soldier who calls Fort Hood home — are woven into the fabric of Killeen and communities throughout Central Texas. When tragedy touches the Fort Hood family, it touches all of us. We grieve together, we pray together and we stand together.

We also extend our sincere gratitude to the Bell County Sheriff’s Office, Salado Fire Department, Bell County ESD 1 and all of the first responders who responded swiftly to the crash and the wildfire that followed. Their courage and quick action helped protect nearby residents and the surrounding community during an incredibly difficult moment.

To the families of Chief Warrant Officer 2 Huey and Warrant Officer Olmstead, please know that you are not alone. The City of Killeen grieves with you, honors the lives and service of these two brave soldiers, and continues to hold their families and all who have been affected by this tragedy close in our hearts and prayers.”

#

About the City of Killeen

Founded in 1882, the City of Killeen combines a charming hometown feel with vibrant cultural experiences influenced by its military heritage and diverse community. With over 160,000 residents, the city is committed to providing municipal services and facilities that meet the essential health, safety, and welfare needs of its residents while also enhancing the overall quality of life. Discover what makes Killeen special at killeentexas.gov.