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**DEKALB COUNTY**

**W. Burrell Ellis, Jr.**  
Chief Executive Officer



**NEWS RELEASE**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **DEKALB CEO AND PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICIALS PARTICIPATE IN “NATIONAL NIGHT OUT”**

**DECATUR** – CEO Burrell Ellis, Public Safety Director William “Wiz” Miller, Police Chief William O’Brien, Fire Chief David Foster along with members of the DeKalb County Police and Fire and Rescue Departments all participated in *National Night Out* events that were recently held in various communities throughout DeKalb County.

*National Night Out* is an annual crime/drug prevention event celebrated in communities across the nation involving citizens, local governments, law enforcement, civic groups, businesses, and neighborhood organizations to reinforce the important partnerships between the community and law enforcement.

“Tonight, we celebrate the determination of DeKalb County’s government, our public safety officials, our citizens and our neighborhoods to improve how we live,” said CEO Ellis. “We all know that it is our government and our police department’s responsibility to keep us safe, but *National Night Out* reminds us that government and police forces alone cannot achieve the security we seek. It is our collective responsibility to keep DeKalb communities safe, healthy and free from crime.”

*National Night Out* heightens crime and drug awareness; generates support for and participation in local anticrime programs; strengthens neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships; and sends a message to criminals to let them know that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

**(MORE)**

**PAGE 2, CEO ELLIS NATIONAL NIGHT OUT**



CEO Ellis and Creekwood residents during *National Night Out*



CEO Ellis discussing community safety with Creekwood Neighborhood Association President Johnny Cole (left) and resident during *National Night Out*

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Left to right: Representative Billy Mitchell, Carrie Briscoe, CEO Ellis, Congressman Hank Johnson and former Commissioner John Evans at Inverness' *National Night Out*

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