



MEDIA RELEASE

OFFICE OF COUNTY MAYOR TIM BURCHETT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Mayor Burchett responds to Mayor Rogero's alternate challenge

Knoxville, Tenn. — After learning that the City of Knoxville beat Knox County in the recent United Way fundraising campaign challenge, Knoxville Mayor Madeline Rogero leveled an alternate challenge to Mayor Burchett, saying she believed he'd rather give his own blood than to have to sit through a Knoxville City Council meeting.

This afternoon, Mayor Burchett responded:

“While I’m proud of the fundraising efforts of Knox County’s employees, the City of Knoxville edged us out. I told Mayor Rogero that, if Knox County lost the fundraising challenge, I’d sit through a City Council meeting. However, after some further negotiations with her, I must say she’s right: I would rather give my own blood than to sit through a City Council meeting – heck I’d give a gallon if I had to.

“So, Mayor Rogero, I accept your alternate challenge, and will visit MEDIC Regional Blood Center on Ailor Ave. tomorrow at 1 p.m. in order to donate blood on behalf of my friends: longtime Knoxville broadcaster Dave Foulk and Knoxville Police Captain Jeff Stiles. Losing a challenge is never easy, but I’m honored to support these two men who have spent so much time serving our community.”

In order to donate on behalf of Capt. Stiles and Dave Foulk, Mayor Burchett will be providing a double red cell donation. A double red cell donation, sometimes referred to as “Alyx”, is very similar to a traditional blood donation. What makes it special is that a machine is used to allow donors to give two units of red blood cells while other blood components are separated and returned to the donor. Red blood cells are the most frequently used blood component and are needed by almost every type of patient requiring a transfusion.

With Mayor Burchett’s donation, he’ll earn two credits for MEDIC’s one-of-a-kind membership program. Mayor Burchett plans to immediately transfer those credits to Capt. Stiles and Dave Foulk to help with their cancer treatment.

Anyone can join the Mayor, and hundreds of others, in helping Capt. Stiles and Dave Foulk by donating blood at any MEDIC blood drive and mentioning the name of the intended recipient.

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