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MEDIA ADVISORY

U.S. Secretary of Transportation Ray LaHood to headline May 1 Houston press conference on moving scams

Houston 4th in nation for moving complaints; San Antonio in top 10

WHAT: National Moving Month press conference to help consumers avoid being taken in by moving scams. Houston is the fourth market nationwide for moving complaints; San Antonio is in the top 10.

DATE: Wednesday, May 1, 2013

TIME: 10:30 a.m. demonstrations by professional movers; 11 a.m. press conference

WHERE: Parking lot at the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles Regional Service Center, 7721 Washington Ave., Houston.

SPEAKERS:

- Ray LaHood, Secretary of Transportation, U.S. Department of Transportation
- John Walker III, Texas Department of Motor Vehicles Board
- Whitney Brewster, Executive Director, Texas Department of Motor Vehicles
- Linda Bauer Darr, President, the national American Moving & Storage Association
- John Esparza, Executive Director, Austin-based Southwest Movers Association
- Dan Parsons, President, Better Business Bureau of Greater Houston and South Texas

Also available for interviews at the press conference: Administrator Anne Ferro of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration; Victims who will share their moving stories.

VISUALS: Line of 18-wheelers from licensed moving companies with properly marked cabs (USDOT and TxDMV numbers). Professional movers showing the speed in which they can wrap furniture. Demonstrations by professional movers using various moving supplies and showcasing different moving pieces from the trucks.

Inclement Weather: In the event of inclement weather the press conference will move inside.

Spanish-language Media: TxDMV and BBB will have Spanish speakers available.

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