

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Criminal Justice Coordinating Council Contact: Brianna Jeansonne

bjeansonne@ebrcjcc.org

C: 985-445-4655

Lights On! Partners with Baton Rouge Police Department, East Baton Rouge Sheriff's Office, and the East Baton Rouge CJCC to Bring Mission to Local Community

Innovative, Community-Driven Program Partners with Law

Enforcement and Auto Service Providers to Replace Tickets with Repair Vouchers at No Cost

BATON ROUGE, LA, January 5, 2023 – [Lights On!](#) – a community-driven program with the mission to heal relationships between communities and law enforcement agencies – announced today its expansion to Baton Rouge, LA in partnership with the Baton Rouge Police Department (BRPD), East Baton Rouge Sheriff's Office (EBRSO), and the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC). This is the first national expansion into the State of Louisiana.

Under the program, officers on traffic stops can provide a voucher for a free repair on mechanical problems with the vehicle rather than citing the driver. Some common mechanical violations include burned-out light bulbs, broken turn signals, or any light bulb-related malfunction on the vehicle.

This collaboration is pleased to partner with the following businesses for this program:

Brothers Auto Repair

2701 Plank Road
Baton Rouge, LA 70805

Main St. Car Care

2131 Main Street
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

Edwards Auto Repair

2763 Scenic Hwy
Baton Rouge, LA 70805

Hogan's Automotive

5888 N. Foster
Baton Rouge, LA 70805

360 Automotive Solutions

1334 Florida Blvd
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

Baker Texaco

790 Main Street
Baker, LA 70714

Simple Simon Tire & Car Care

7777 Airline Hwy
Baton Rouge, LA 70815

Simple Simon Tire & Car Care

12116 Airline Hwy
Baton Rouge, LA 70817

The Criminal Justice Coordinating Council is providing the grant funding to make this program possible for East Baton Rouge Parish residents. Lights On! is completely free to police departments and voucher recipients.

“The Lights On! program is a way to build relationships between law enforcement and the communities they serve,” said Don Samuels, CEO and Founder of Lights On!. “Instead of punishing drivers for broken lights, we can fix the mechanical issue and mitigate what often becomes a downward spiral for community members in need. We are giving officers a new tool on their duty belt that creates a positive interaction, especially needed in these tense times,” said Samuels.

“We are eager to see the positive outcomes Lights On! will bring to the residents of East Baton Rouge Parish,” said Chris Csonka, Executive Director of the CJCC. “The Lights On! program will provide an opportunity to improve public safety and positively affect someone’s interaction with law enforcement.”

“East Baton Rouge is proud to welcome the Lights On! initiative to our city-parish,” said Mayor-President Sharon Weston Broome. “This program is a significant step in building trust and maintaining strong community relationships between our citizens and law enforcement, which leads to a safer community for all.”

“Our officers are service-minded and solution-oriented, ” says BRPD Chief Murphy Paul. “Lights On! is another way for our officers to show the community how much they care.”

The Lights On! initiative will initially launch in East Baton Rouge Parish with the hopes other police agencies and cities in Louisiana will see the benefit of this program and implement it in their own jurisdictions.

The program is completely free to voucher recipients and is supported by community in-kind and financial donations. To learn more or donate, visit LightsOnUS.Org.

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About Lights On!

[Lights On!](http://LightsOnUS.org) is a community-driven program which offers repair vouchers instead of traffic tickets for participating law enforcement agencies and communities they serve. The program was founded after the unnecessary death of Philando Castile in 2016 as a solution to a small problem that has a significant community impact. Officers can provide drivers with Lights On! vouchers redeemable for free repairs of broken lights at partnered auto shops. The vouchers reduce the financial burden that could lead to a potential downward spiral for community members in need as well as creates a positive interaction between drivers and officers, to rebuild trust. Lights On! was created by Don Samuels, founder of MicroGrants, a non-profit dedicated to providing people of potential with grants that spur economic stability by bridging the gap between their current state and a more successful future. For more information, visit LightsOnUS.org and follow Lights On! on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/LightsOnUS), [Twitter](https://twitter.com/LightsOnUS) and [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/LightsOnUS).

About the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC)

The CJCC is a collaborative group of justice, municipal, and community leaders who work to improve policies and procedures of the justice system in East Baton Rouge Parish. The CJCC works with local, state, and national agencies to establish an equitable justice system and advance public safety through data-driven planning, research and development, education, and coordination of criminal justice efforts. The goal of the CJCC is to create a justice system that is fair and just while continuing to improve public safety for all the residents of East Baton Rouge Parish. To learn more, visit www.ebrcjcc.org and follow the CJCC on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/ebrcjcc) and [Twitter](https://twitter.com/ebrcjcc).

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