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News Release

For Immediate Release: May 30, 2018

Police Employees and Partners to Pick up Torch

Special Olympics Torch Run Tomorrow; Department Has Raised Nearly \$3,000 This Year

DURHAM, N.C. - On Thursday, May 31, Durham Police Department (DPD) officers and non-sworn employees will run the department's leg of the 2018 North Carolina Torch Run Relay that benefits North Carolina Special Olympics. Preliminary activities will begin at 8 a.m. in front of Police Headquarters (505 W. Chapel Hill Street) for logistical coordination and opening remarks. The actual Torch Run will start at 8:30 a.m.

So far this year, DPD employees have raised \$2,767.87 to support NC Special Olympics. Since 2008 the police department has raised over \$50,000 to support the cause.

DPD Special Olympics outreach and engagement events are coordinated by the department's Community Services Division and include a variety of campaigns in addition to the annual Torch Run. Activities include attendance at Durham County Special Olympics Games at Durham Academy Upper School (April 23); Cops on Tops donation drive at Chick-fil-A (May 11 and again on September 14, 2018); and Torch Run apparel sales.

Torch Run Apparel Sales

While supplies last, the general public can support DPD's Torch Run campaign by purchasing Torch Run T-shirts for \$15 (teal blue cotton) and \$20 (black Dri-Fit). Caps are also available for \$15. One hundred percent of the funds received from apparel sales will help to cover training and other event expenses for more than 39,000 North Carolina Special Olympics athletes. Contact Officer Mark Walkowe by emailing Mark.Walkowe@durhamnc.gov or calling (919) 560-4404 ext. 29419.

