

Media Release 06/06/16

MARYLAND LAW ENFORCEMENT TO HOST ANNAPOLIS POLICE DEPARTMENT TORCH RUN TO BENEFIT SPECIAL OLYMPICS MARYLAND IN CELEBRATION OF 46th ANNUAL SUMMER GAMES

WHAT: Maryland Law Enforcement will host the Annapolis Police Department Torch Run on Wednesday, June 8th at City Dock to benefit Special Olympics Maryland. Law Enforcement Officers and Special Olympics athletes across the county will run the Flame of Hope™ in celebration of the 46th annual Special Olympics Maryland Summer Games.

Beginning May 25th, thousands of Law Enforcement Officers and Special Olympics athletes across the state will run the Flame of Hope™ hundreds of miles, culminating at the Summer Games Opening Ceremony on Friday, June 10th at Towson University. Since its inception in 1986, the Maryland Law Enforcement Torch Run has raised more than \$25 million for Special Olympics Maryland in support of its mission to provide quality sports training and competition to Maryland's children and adults with intellectual disabilities. Last year alone, the Maryland Law Enforcement Torch Run raised over \$2.5 million.

WHO: More than 60 Law Enforcement Officers and Special Olympics athletes and volunteers, including: The Annapolis Police Department, Anne Arundel County Sheriff's Office, Anne Arundel County State's Attorney Office, and the FBI Annapolis Resident Agency.

WHEN: Wednesday, June 8th | Start Time: 2:00pm

WHERE: City Dock, Dock Street, Annapolis, MD 21401
Annapolis Police Chief Michael Pristoop will accept the Flame of Hope™ from the Maryland Transportation Authority Police Department as it arrives by boat at the City Dock. Runners will run up Main Street to Church Circle to School Street to State Circle. After a brief stop on State Circle the runners will retrace their steps to Church Circle to West Street, then make a right on Calvert Street, left on Rowe Boulevard and then run out Rowe Boulevard to make a right on Taylor Avenue. They will make a left on Ridgely Avenue, a right on Giddings Avenue, a right on Annapolis Street, and then out over the Route 450 / Naval Academy Bridge to the World War II Memorial. Roads will be closed on a rolling basis as the runners move through the route.

If you are along our route, please come out and cheer on the athletes, our officers, and other volunteers.

**Media interested in attending the Law Enforcement Torch Run in Annapolis or receiving Torch Run photos may contact Det. Chuck Bealefeld at cbealefeld@annapolis.gov or 443-986-5561

For the full Annapolis Police Department Torch Run Route and Schedule, visit

<http://www.kintera.org/faf/search/searchTeam.asp?ievent=1159703&lis=1&kntae1159703=342582221F514C91B98CEC5A022AB142>

ABOUT SPECIAL OLYMPICS MARYLAND (SOMD)

Special Olympics Maryland (SOMD) is a year-round sports organization dedicated to providing quality sports training and competition opportunities to Maryland's children and adults with intellectual disabilities and/or closely related development disabilities. SOMD currently provides thousands of sports experiences annually for athletes statewide, and offers 24 sports, all at no cost to the athletes or their families. For more information about SOMD visit www.somd.org or call 410-789- 6677.

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