



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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COPS TAKE TO THE ROOFTOP OF THE WESTMINSTER DUNKIN’ DONUTS STORE IN SUPPORT OF SPECIAL OLYMPICS MARYLAND

Public safety executives from the Westminster Police Department, the Carroll County Sheriff’s Office, the Maryland State Police and the Carroll County State’s Attorney’s Office will collect donations for Special Olympics Maryland on the rooftop of the Westminster Dunkin’ Donuts the weekend of August 26th and 27th.

Anyone who ever thought nothing good could come from cops sitting around (or in this case ON) a donut shop might reconsider that notion when “Cops on Rooftops” - a fundraiser for Special Olympics Maryland - comes to the Westminster Dunkin’ Donuts location on **Saturday, August 26th through Sunday, August 27th, 2017.**

As part of a national fundraising effort for Special Olympics, **Chief Jeff Spaulding** of the Westminster Police Department, **Carroll County Sheriff Jim DeWees**, **Lieutenant Pat McCrory** of the Maryland State Police and **Carroll County State’s Attorney Brian DeLeonardo** have volunteered to spend the weekend on the roof of Dunkin’ Donuts restaurant in Westminster (140 Shopping Center on Route 140). Their collective fundraising goal is \$10,000 and they have vowed that they will not come down until all of that money has been collected.



In 2016, a number of Police Departments across Maryland participated in this effort and raised more than \$30,000 for the Athletes of Special Olympics Maryland. This year six (6) Dunkin’ Donuts stores across the state have pledged to take part in the program...and that number is growing.



Dunkin' Donuts customers and the general public alike are encouraged to stop by and support the officers in their efforts to raise both funds and awareness for the Law Enforcement Torch Run® for Special Olympics Maryland. Along with the law enforcement volunteers who will be on the rooftop, other officers, staff and Special Olympics Athletes will greet customers inside and outside of the store, passing around donation jars and rallying support for this great cause.

According to Chief Spaulding, "Cops and donuts have a long, humorous history together, so it was only fitting that we team up with the great folks at Dunkin' Donuts for this light-hearted event. This event allows us to do something great for an incredible organization and poke a little fun at ourselves at the same time. What could be better than that?"

The event conceived by a group of the law enforcement officers from Illinois, who in 2009, took to the rooftops of 94 Dunkin' Donuts locations across the state and raised more than \$182,000.

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 410-242-1515.

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