



*****MEDIA ADVISORY*****

For Immediate Release

May 30, 2018

**MARYLAND LAW ENFORCEMENT TO HOST CARROLL COUNTY TORCH RUN TO
BENEFIT SPECIAL OLYMPICS MARYLAND IN CELEBRATION
OF THE 48TH ANNUAL SUMMER GAMES**

WHAT: Maryland Law Enforcement will host the Carroll County Torch Run on June 6th 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 48th annual Special Olympics Maryland Summer Games.

Beginning on May 31st, 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 8th at Towson University. Since its inception in 1986, the Maryland Law Enforcement Torch Run has raised more than \$35 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 \$2.9 million.

WHO: More than 200 Law Enforcement Officers, Special Olympics athletes and volunteers representing every law enforcement agency in the County. Additional public safety partners involved include the Carroll County State's Attorney's Office, the Department of Juvenile Services, the Office of the State Fire Marshal, the McDaniel College Office of Campus Safety, the Carroll Community College Office of Public Safety and Security and the Baltimore Environmental Police Department. The police academy classes from the Maryland Police Training Commission and the Natural Resources Police Department will also participate.

WHEN: **June 6, 2017** **Start Time: 7:30 a.m.** **Ceremony Time: 12:00 noon**

Five (5) runs will begin between 7:30 a.m. and 9 a.m. at various locations around the County (see below for details). The "Torch Run Trek", a 3-mile walk, will begin at the Carroll County Farm Museum at 10 a.m., proceed to McDaniel College, and then end at the City Hall ceremony. Final Leg will depart at 11:30 a.m. from McDaniel College.

WHERE: **Torch Run routes include:**

Sykesville Route – Departs Maryland Police Training Commission Gym at 7:30 a.m.

Hampstead/Manchester Route – Departs Manchester PD at 9:30 a.m.

Taneytown Route – Departs Taneytown Memorial Park at 8:00 a.m.

Mt. Airy Route – Departs the Mt. Airy Fire Department at 7:30 a.m.

Union Bridge/New Windsor Route – Departs Union Bridge Fire Hall at 9:00 a.m.

Torch Run “Trek” – Departs the Carroll County Farm Museum at 10:00 a.m.

Final Leg – Departs McDaniel College at 11:30 a.m.

**Ceremony Location: Westminster City Hall (Emerald Hill Drive)
(Rain location – Westminster Family Center)**

Media outlets wishing to attend the Law Enforcement Torch Run in Carroll County or to receive Torch Run photos may contact Jeff Spaulding at jspaulding@westgov.com or (410) 848-4246.

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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