U.S. Department of Justice
Office of Community Oriented Policing Services
145 N Street NE, Washington, DC 20530

COPS

September 7, 2018

Dear Colleague:

The U.S. Department of Justice Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS Office) is pleased to collaborate with the Hawthorne (CA) Police Department and law enforcement agencies throughout the country for the third annual National Coffee with a Cop Day. On October 3, 2018, officers from law enforcement agencies in all 50 states and five foreign countries will participate in Coffee with a Cop, and we encourage you to join us.

The Hawthorne Police Department hosted the first Coffee with a Cop in 2011, as part of its effort to enable meaningful conversations with community residents. What began as Hawthorne's individual effort to reduce barriers between police and the public has since evolved and spread, with funding support from the COPS Office, into a national conversation between police officers and their communities. In 2016, the COPS Office established the first Wednesday in October as National Coffee with a Cop Day.

Today we marvel at the broad acceptance of this simple but effective method of bringing police and communities together. Consider how your community can participate, identify local partners that will support you, and register your event on the national Coffee with a Cop website at https://coffeewithacop.com/add-an-event/. This website also offers a few basic suggestions on how to get started and provides contact information for instructors who have helped communities host past events.

One day — and a few cups of coffee — is all you need to start strengthening the relationship between police and members of the community. No agendas, no barriers — it just takes the willingness to sit down, listen, and have a conversation.

Please join us.

Sincerely,

Phil Keith
Director
Office of Community Oriented Policing Services