



April 15, 2015

Arizona Law Enforcement Torch Run Mission Statement

The mission of the Arizona Law Enforcement Torch Run is to raise funds and awareness for Special Olympics Arizona statewide. We carry the Torch representing the Flame of Hope and dedicate ourselves to helping Special Olympics Arizona throughout the state.

History of Law Enforcement Torch Run

The Torch Run program began in 1981 when Wichita, Kansas Chief of Police Richard LaMunyon saw an urgent need to raise funds for and increase awareness of Special Olympics. The idea was simple: provide local law enforcement with opportunities to volunteer with Special Olympics in communities where the officers lived and worked.

The Law Enforcement Torch Run is a series of intra-state/intra-nation runs that take place in the spring and summer in the United States and around the world. Throughout the course of the Torch Run, participants collect contributions from individuals and businesses, asking to help raise support for incredible Special Olympics athletes. The Torch Run is much more than just a run; it is a year-round campaign to raise awareness and funds for Special Olympics Arizona. The Law Enforcement Torch Run puts on statewide events such as tip-a-cop, cop on top of donut shops, golf tournaments, polar plunges, and inmate fundraising—just to name a few!

The Quartzsite Police Department Participation

The Quartzsite Police Department has participated in the Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Runs in the past through La Paz County, but has not truly been actively involved until 2014 when the Torch was carried through the town and contributions were made. It is the Quartzsite Police Department's new motto of "Our Community, Our Commitment" that has driven the department to be actively involved in more community events. We ask that you see the faces and extraordinary efforts of these special needs people as they participate in the Special Olympics. It re-enforces our efforts to commit to our community by supporting and participating in such a worthy event as the Law Enforcement Special Olympics Torch Run.

The Quartzsite Police Department is asking the community to not only participate and contribute, but be aware of our local special needs children who participate in this program. The Quartzsite Police Department has and will continue raising money to help contribute to this special and important program year round. Last year the department and contributing sponsors contributed over \$800 within a few short weeks. Currently, the Quartzsite Police Department has Special Olympics wristbands (given to every donor) made to help raise some of the contributions for the Special Olympics. Quartzsite Police Department would like to give out special thanks to the businesses, individuals and especially to the VFW chapters from Quartzsite, Yuma and Salome for contributions and for providing breakfast last year.



On **May 06, 2015**, the Quartzsite Police Department and any person willing to participate in the event will meet at the Quartzsite Fire Department (70 E. Tyson) parking lot at 6:30 am where all participants will need to sign waivers to Walk, Run or Cycle. Participants can Walk, Run or Cycle the predetermined route. We will make arrangements for all participants to get back to their vehicles.

Our portion of the run with the Torch will begin at the Quartzsite Fire Department at approximately 7:00 am. The route starts at the Quartzsite Fire Department and goes South on Central Avenue, then East on Main Street. It will end at approximately 8:30 am at the Chevron Gas Station with an address of 41 Riggles Road. The participants will be escorted by police vehicles during the walk and run. The Torch will then be handed off to the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office so they can escort the torch towards the City of Phoenix where the Special Olympics will be held at the ASU-Sun Devil Stadium. There will be breakfast provided after the run. The location will be determined and announced soon.

If you would like to participate by walking, please contact the Quartzsite Police Department in advance so plans can be made for an extra escort to the ending location. If you would like to make any contributions towards the event, please contact **Tim Rider**, or **Hilario Tanakeyowma** of the Quartzsite Police Department at **(928) 927-4644**. All proceeds will go towards the Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run.

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