



NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Community Outreach 805-339-4317
Release Prepared by: Ashley Bautista

Event: National Coffee with a Cop

Location: Palermo, 321 E. Main Street Ventura

Date/Time: October 3, 2018, 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

The community is invited to come together with Ventura Police Officers in a friendly, informal environment to discuss community issues, build relationships and enjoy a good cup of coffee for National Coffee with a Cop which will be held at Palermo, located at 321 E. Main Street in Ventura, on October 3 from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

Most contacts police officers have with the public happen during emergencies or emotional situations. Those situations are not always the most effective times for relationship building and some community members may feel that officers are unapproachable on the street or during the course of their duties. Coffee with a Cop breaks down barriers and allows time for relaxed one-on-one interaction.

Engaging the community in public safety efforts is a top priority of the Ventura Police Department. We share the community's concerns and make every effort to address them. We offer monthly opportunities at Community Council meetings to learn about crime trends and crime prevention. We also provide regular community meetings and neighborhood meetings upon request. Coffee with a Cop is an additional opportunity for residents to get to know the officers that serve Ventura.

The Coffee with a Cop effort is a national initiative supported by the United States Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services. Similar events are being held across the country as police departments strive to make lasting connections with the communities they serve.

The program aims to advance the practice of community policing through improving relationships between police officers and community members one cup of coffee at a time. Coffee with a Cop provides an opportunity for community members to ask questions and learn more about the department's service. There is no formal agenda, just a casual opportunity to voice concerns and share ideas. This is a no host event.