



NEWS RELEASE

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Event: Coffee with a Cop

Location: Peirano's Market & Delicatessen, 204 E. Main Street, Ventura, 93001

Date/Time: February 26, 2020 12:30-2:00pm

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, or Italian sub, for Coffee with a Cop which will be held at Peirano's Market & Delicatessen located at 204 E. Main Street in Ventura on February 26 from 12:30 pm to 2:00pm.

Engaging the community in public safety efforts is a top priority of the Ventura Police Department. Coffee with a Cop is a unique opportunity for residents to get to know the officers who serve their community. The majority of contacts with law enforcement happen during emergency 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. Coffee with a Cop seeks to break down barriers and allows for a relaxed, one-on-one interaction.

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 department strive to make lasting connection with the communities they serve.

"At the heart of community policing is building positive relationships and problem-solving with the people we serve," said Assistant Chief Darin Schindler. "In a few hours at Coffee with a Cop, we are able to have meaningful, face to face conversations with residents about community concerns and mutual goals, it's extremely valuable time together."

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.