



# Ft. Pierce Police Department News Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**R. Sean Baldwin**  
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## Fort Pierce sergeant passionate about raises funds and awareness for Special Olympics

**FORT PIERCE** – When it comes to the Special Olympic, there is nothing that Fort Pierce Police Sergeant Alecia Rock wouldn't do as long as it's legal.

For more than a decade, Sergeant Rock has planned and coordinated the annual activities associated with the Law Enforcement Torch Run for the police department and St. Lucie County. Her passion for children and adults with special needs continues to drive her to stay involved.

"It blesses my heart," said Sergeant Rock, who is a member of the ARC board of directors. "The parents and people working with our Olympians and clients of ARC are very special people and I am glad to be a part of that."

As Sergeant Rock reflects on previous year's events, she is well on her way to wrapping up this year's activities. Tomorrow, **April 23, 2008**, she will be joined by law enforcement officers from various agencies in St. Lucie County who will participate in the Torch Run. The officers and actually run the "Flame of Hope" in two routes. The morning route involves the team of officers visiting St. Lucie County schools that have special Olympians in attendance. The officers run with the flame at the schools along a designated route. Then, in the afternoon, the officers will literally take the flame to the streets, carrying it along a route that will begin at the St. Lucie County Sheriff's Office and end in Downtown Fort Pierce, Sergeant Rock said.

Fort Pierce Police Captain Gregory Kirk, who is responsible for the department's participation in the Torch Run, said "Sergeant Rock's commitment to this statewide effort to raise funds for our special needs community to compete in the state Olympics is a credit to herself as a person and to the Ft. Pierce Police Department."

**Morning Route:** The Torch runners will be visiting the following schools **on Wednesday, April 23**. Times are approximate:

- Gaines Academy, 2250 S Jenkins Road in Fort Pierce, - 9:25 a.m.
- Fort Pierce Central, 1101 Edwards Road in Fort Pierce, - 9:45-10:00 a.m.  
(best photos – Special Olympians attend)
- Rivers Edge Elementary 5600 NE St. James Drive in PSL - 10:20 a.m.  
(best photos – Special Olympians attend)
- Parkway Elementary, 7000 NW Selvitz Road in PSL, - 10:40 a.m.

**Afternoon Route:** The Torch runners will begin at the St. Lucie County Sheriff's Office on Midway Road at 2:00pm. The route will continue east to U.S. 1, then north to Orange Avenue and east to Second Street. The Downtown Business Association has joined forces with area agencies to sponsor a celebration culminating the end of the run. Fun, raffles and demonstrations are scheduled and local restaurants will be open for business.

The flame will visit other jurisdictions and eventually make its way to the Opening Ceremonies of the Florida Special Olympics held in Kissimmee, Fl. The spring and summer games begin May 16, 2008.

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