

# Ft. Pierce Police Department

## News Release

03/22/10

**R. Sean Baldwin**

*Chief of Police*



920 S. U.S. #1

Ft. Pierce, FL 34950

### Tip A Cop event helps Special Olympics

**FORT PIERCE** – Instead of writing traffic citations and taking people to jail on Friday, a few law enforcement officers will be handing out menus and taking orders.

Officers representing the Fort Pierce Police Department, St. Lucie County Sheriff's Office and the Port St. Lucie Police Department have volunteered their time to participate in the annual Tip-A-Cop event at Red Lobster, 6401 Darter Court in Fort Pierce. Between 5:30 and 9:30 p.m. March 26, 2010 officers will greet customers and wait tables.

"We will be raising awareness and money for Special Olympics," said Fort Pierce Police Sergeant Alecia Rock, event coordinator.

Tip-A-Cop is one of the main fundraisers held for the Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics. Every year, officers along the Treasure Coast serve as celebrity waiters at local restaurants and they donate all the tips they receive to local Special Olympics programs. Last year, more than \$1,000 was raised, Rock said.

"Over the years, people have been very generous in supporting the cause," she said. "The officers have a good time and enjoy serving the patrons."

Law enforcement officers from over 300 Florida agencies participate in the state-wide Law Enforcement Torch Run to benefit the athletes of Special Olympics Florida. Each year, over 3,000 officers carry the torch on a 1500-mile relay through more than 60 counties in Florida. The torch is scheduled to make its way through St. Lucie County on April 19, 2010.

Funds are generated through contributions from individuals and businesses along the way and through sales of the popular Torch Run T-shirts and caps. This event is held each year prior to Special Olympics Florida State Summer Games. The intrastate torch relay will start at the end of March and culminate at the Opening Ceremonies on May 14, 2010. Officers from around the state will join together to bring the "Flame of Hope" into the stadium.

Bring the family, enjoy a great meal, and most importantly, support the Special Olympics by making a donation. This is a great chance to bring the kids and let them meet a uniformed deputy or officer in a personal, friendly, fun-filled atmosphere.

###

---

**Audria V. Moore**

*Public Information Officer*

Cell: 772-370-1848  
Fax: 772-465-5181

Office: 772-461-3820 ext. 5203  
Email: [fppio@fppd.org](mailto:fppio@fppd.org)