



NEIGHBORS IN UNIFORM

A newsletter from Gwinnett Police

June 2024

Welcome to Neighbors in Uniform, a monthly newsletter that provides information about Gwinnett County Police events, topics, programs, and initiatives. We are honored to have the respect and trust of the residents we serve and protect, and we're happy to be a resource and support.

We hope you celebrated the dads and father figures in your lives on Father's Day; being a police officer is an honor, but being a dad is priceless. Today, we celebrate Juneteenth, a day of reflection and celebration for African Americans marking the end of slavery. In June, we also recognize National Public Safety month, PTSD Awareness month, Men's Health month, Caribbean American Heritage month and Pride month. Look for Gwinnett Police at one of several local Pride celebrations.

Serve and protect your community with a career in law enforcement

We're seeking dedicated individuals to [join our team](#) as police officers or 911 communications officers.

Our next hiring event will take place on **Saturday, July 13**, from **8:00am to 4:00pm** at the Gwinnett County Police Training Center, located at 854 Winder Highway in Lawrenceville.

This is a special opportunity to complete the first phase of the two-phase hiring process. Conditional jobs officers may be given during this event.



We're offering a \$5,100 hiring incentive for new police officers and a \$4,600 hiring incentive for new communications officers.

To view more information about the police officer positions and apply, visit GwinnettCounty.com/JulyPoliceHiringEvent.

To learn more about the communications officer position and apply, visit GwinnettCounty.com/JulyE911HiringEvent.

Help us support students in need with school supplies

Help students start the new school year strong by donating to our Operation Children Thrive back-to-school supply drive! We're collecting donations until **July 17** to ensure families are supported and students return to class prepared for the 2024-2025 school year.

Residents are encouraged to drop off new backpacks and [school supplies](#) at Gwinnett Police Headquarters or any of our six [precincts](#) around the county Monday through Friday from 8:00am to 4:00pm. For more information, please email PDCommunityAffairs@GwinnettCounty.com.



Master your firearm with essential gun safety practices



Learn guidelines and best practices for safe gun handling by joining our final summer session of Firearm Safety and Security classes. The classes are offered at all police precincts and taught by local law enforcement personnel.

Registration is required to participate, and seating is limited. Youth who plan to attend must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Residents are prohibited from bringing their own guns to class.

Visit GwinnettCounty.com/FirearmSafety to register for the final summer class to be held on **Wednesday,**

July 17, at Central Precinct located at 3125 Satellite Boulevard in Duluth at **6:30pm.**

Gwinnett Multicultural Festival draws thousands to celebrate diversity

Thank you to the estimated 3,500 attendees who came out to support the 10th annual Gwinnett Multicultural Festival and County Government Open House! We celebrated Gwinnett's newest citizens. The touch-a-truck area was a huge hit for the young and young at heart. The talented performers mesmerized us with their cultural dances, shared their traditional instruments, and even performed a fire dance. The exhibitors did a phenomenal job decorating their tables to showcase countries from around the world and share stories of heritage and history. The vendors showed up with delicious food options, face painting, henna tattoos, carnival rides, and popular characters greeted residents during the event. The annual festival is a testament to what truly makes Gwinnett unique — our residents!

In 2013, former Chief of Police Charlie Walters had the vision to create the multicultural festival to build relationships and break down barriers between police and residents. As a result, we hosted the first Gwinnett Multicultural Festival on May 3, 2014, at North Atlanta Trade Center. Engaging with diverse cultures helps us challenge stereotypes, fight prejudices, and build bridges of understanding across communities. By appreciating and respecting different customs, traditions, and languages, we cultivate a more inclusive society that values the contributions of each individual, regardless of their background.

We extend our deepest gratitude to every performer, vendor, volunteer, and attendee who contributed to the festival's success. We believe a vibrant and thriving community, like Gwinnett, is built on the foundation of mutual respect, understanding, and collaboration. We look forward to your continued support and participation in this annual event of learning, laughter, and celebration. [See the latest photos from the festival and other signature events.](#)

Congratulations to our exceptional Rising Stars!

We hosted our third annual Rising Star Awards to recognize the selfless acts and tireless efforts students have made in our community. Prior to the celebration, we surprised students at their homes and places where they volunteer to give them the great news about their nomination and provide them with a formal invitation to the awards ceremony and a VIP tour of our Training Center. [GoGwinnett!](#) featured just a couple of our surprise visits.

The Gwinnett Police Rising Star Award recognizes Gwinnett youth for their roles as active volunteers in the community. Congratulations to these 11 servant leaders who demonstrate an unyielding dedication to community service and improving the lives of others:

- Iyanu Dabiri, Senior, Discovery High School
- Cameron Daniels, Junior, Collins Hill High School
- Sophia Landin, Junior, Homeschool
- Kaila McCalla, 7th Grade, TruthFinders Home School
- Zion Mwanjabala, Freshman, Georgia Connections Academy
- Ishika Narsingani, Senior, Peachtree Ridge High School
- Nguyet Nguyen, Junior, Brookwood High School
- Aubrey Nizigiyimana, Junior, Discovery High School
- Brianna Paredes, Junior, Paul Duke STEM High School
- Khloe Reynolds, 7th Grade, Trickum Middle School
- Yuwei Yang, Senior, Brookwood High School

A special thank you to the residents who nominated this exceptional group of young leaders!



Safety Tip of the Month: Minimize distracted driving

Distracted driving is dangerous and deadly. In 2022, 3,308 people lost their lives in crashes involving distracted drivers, and nearly 290,000 people were injured, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

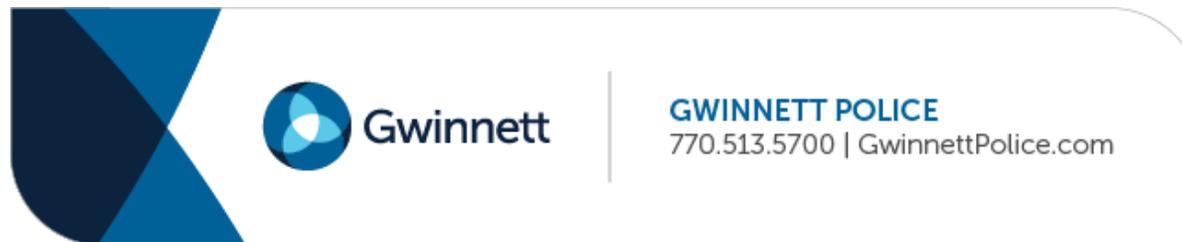
You cannot drive safely unless the task of driving has your **full** attention. Any activity you engage in while driving is a potential distraction and increases your risk of crashing. Here are five tips to keep in mind to help minimize distracted driving:



- Turn on your Android Auto or Apple Car Play feature before putting your vehicle in drive, so you can answer calls or messages hands-free. You can also activate the 'Do Not Disturb' feature on your phone to silence notifications while driving.
- Start touch-free navigation before heading to your destination. Turn the sound on for voice directions, so you can keep your eyes on the road.
- Avoid too much conversation with passengers in the vehicle or on the phone.
- Avoid multitasking, eating, or getting ready while driving. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, people who eat and drive increase their chances of getting into a car accident by 80 percent.
- Avoid driving while overly emotional. It's okay to not be okay. You may need to pull over to calm down before driving again.

Please keep your hands on the wheel, eyes on the road, and focus on safely driving to your destination. Visit [Gwinnett Safety 411](#) for more safety tips.

For questions regarding the Neighbors in Uniform newsletter, please contact Rachael Warnsley at Rachael.Warnsley@GwinnettCounty.com or 770.513.5348. Be sure to follow us on [Facebook](#), [X](#), and [Instagram](#) @GwinnettPD.



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