



NEIGHBORS IN UNIFORM

A newsletter from Gwinnett Police

July 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.

You can see yourself everywhere at Gwinnett Police

The Gwinnett Police Department goes above and beyond to offer a diverse range of roles that cater to a variety of skills and passions. Our department is committed to providing opportunities for individuals to serve their community in a meaningful way.

Whether you're drawn to the thrill of high-stakes situations, the precision of forensic analysis, or the satisfaction of building community trust, we have a place for you. Our dynamic divisions and specialty teams, including K-9, Training, Crime Scene Investigation, SWAT, 911 Communications, and Community Affairs, offer a wealth of career paths. Watch the video that highlights a few of our specialty teams.



Ready to embark on a rewarding career in law enforcement? Learn more about our department and connect with one of our recruiters by visiting [GwinnettPoliceJobs.com](https://www.gwinnettpolice.com/jobs).

Join us at the 15th annual Public Safety Fall Festival!

Gwinnett Police is thrilled to announce the 15th annual Public Safety Fall Festival at Coolray Field on Saturday, September 7 from 10:00am to 2:00pm. This year, the festival will be even more exciting with the addition of the inaugural Peach State Police Motorcycle Skills and Training Seminar that also takes place September 4 through September 7 at Coolray Field and showcases the skills and precision of police motorcyclists from across the country.

The Public Safety Fall Festival brings together residents and first responders for a day of fun, education, and engagement through touch-a-truck experiences, family-friendly activities, food trucks, and giveaways. As always, the event is free and open to the public. Whether you are interested in the high-octane excitement of the motorcycle rodeo or the educational and interactive experiences at the festival, there's something for everyone!

For more information, please email PDCommunityAffairs@GwinnettCounty.com. If you are interested in being an exhibitor at the event, please submit a [completed application](#) by Friday, August 9.

Gwinnett Youth Police Academy helps us build bridges and break down barriers

This summer, Gwinnett Police once again hosted 26 middle school and 24 high school students at our annual Youth Police Academy, a program designed to foster positive relationships between youth and peace officers. Each year since 2016, we host two academies that are a week-long and exposes students to the inner workings of the police department and the importance of community safety.

This year, through a combination of classroom instruction, hands-on activities, and field trips, we provided a comprehensive understanding of law enforcement, personal safety, and crime prevention. Youth were able to connect with officers in a non-enforcement setting and learn how each police division and section — such as K-9, crime scene investigations, aviation, and 911 communications — functions daily to benefit residents.

In addition to officers and personnel from our different divisions who help teach students, we appreciate the help and support from our external partners, including Northside Hospital Gwinnett, GUIDE, Inc., and Gwinnett Fire and Emergency Services Training Academy. A special thank you to our Empower Gwinnett Government Internship Program interns Malachi Pollard and Connor Salmon, who helped supervise our middle school students and write questions for our youth trivia game. There is so much that goes into creating a memorable experience for students and it's no surprise that we continue to see more and more siblings of YPA alumni as well as children and grandchildren of Citizens Police Academy alumni. Don't miss your opportunity next summer!

Gwinnett Police youth engagement fosters future leaders

In addition to our signature youth programs, this summer we also hosted students from across the county through various programs, such as [Gwinnett County Public Schools Community Based Mentoring Program](#), [Junior District Attorney and Investigator Mentorship](#), and [Gwinnett Youth Commissioners](#). Students went behind-the-scenes at police headquarters, 911 Communications, and the police training center.

Gwinnett Police is committed to fostering the next generation of leaders, providing hands-on learning experiences, self-defense, community safety, and crime prevention. If you or your organization is interested in working with Gwinnett Police Community Affairs to design an engagement event that best suits your youth, we would be happy to speak with you. Please email PDCommunityAffairs@GwinnettCounty.com to learn more.

Operation Children Thrive helps hundreds of families prepare for back-to-school

As the new school year approaches, Gwinnett Police and many of our partners step up to make sure every child in our community has the necessary tools to succeed academically. Each year, we host Operation Children Thrive back-to-school supply event in partnership with local nonprofit 1Powerhouse to provide school supplies, food, and household items to families in need. Last Friday, we served more than 650 families, providing more than 1,500 backpacks filled with school supplies.

In addition to the backpacks and school supplies provided by local residents, we also received supplies from the [Gwinnett County Public Schools Foundation](#).

This year, we hosted the supply distribution event at St. Patrick's Catholic Church. Gwinnett Police invited a few of our first responder partners to join us in service — thank you to Gwinnett Fire and Emergency Services, Gwinnett County Public Schools Student Resource Officers, and Norcross Police! This event, like many others we host, is a testament to the power of community support and the commitment of our department to foster a nurturing environment for children and families.

Students had the opportunity to select their own backpacks and fill them with the necessary supplies needed for the upcoming school year. Gwinnett Police also had the benefit of a few extra hands to help sort, package, and clean up after the event from a student led local nonprofit SEASUS, a Korean American organization focused on education and volunteer service. Our longstanding partners at 1Powerhouse invited their partners and provided valuable information about accessing health care and immigration resources. Together, we not only supported the academic success of our children but also showed the families that there are organizations, first responders, and residents who care about their children's future.

Upfront Gwinnett: Suffering in Silence (Part 3) featuring Gwinnett Police

First responders are our frontline heroes. They rush to the scene in the most critical and dangerous situations. Their compassion leads them to address crimes for victims' families, rush into burning homes, and comfort those whose loved ones are sadly now a memory.

Behind their bravery, their badge, and hidden cape is an issue often overlooked — their mental health.

Upfront Gwinnett: Suffering in Silence (Part 3) examines those hidden struggles faced by those who selflessly save lives and the resources available to help them.



Safety Tip: Beware of Fake Scam Phone Calls



There has recently been a renewed wave of scam phone calls from people claiming to be officers with the Gwinnett County Police Department. Victims of these scams are often called randomly by people pretending to be police officers. The names they provide may be a real officer's name or a fake name with a fake badge number. Generally, the scam caller threatens arrest, or some other action if money is not provided to them. **The Gwinnett County Police Department will never ask for payment of any sort over the phone.**

- Be suspicious of anyone calling and demanding immediate payment, especially by:
 - Prepaid debit card (such as Green Dot)
 - Gift cards
 - Cryptocurrency (such as bitcoin)
 - Wire transfer
 - Cash via FedEx or other courier
- Ask for the caller's identity and independently contact the agency. Do not call the number that appears on your caller I.D.
- Do not disclose personal or financial information to unsolicited callers or by email.
- Do not wire money or provide bank account numbers or financial transaction card numbers (credit, debit, Green Dot, or any other prepaid card) to anyone you don't know.

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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