



Eastern Connecticut State University

NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Eastern Police to Participate in Special Olympics Torch Run

Willimantic, CT -- Eastern Connecticut State University Campus Police Department will once again participate in the Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run.

Beginning at 8:19 a.m. on June 7, members of Eastern's campus police, along with members of the Willimantic Police Department, will participate in the run. This year, the run is open to anyone who wishes to participate. Runners will begin at Eastern's north entrance, and will run through campus before heading south onto the streets of downtown Willimantic.

More than 3,500 Special Olympics Connecticut athletes and law enforcement personnel will carry the "Flame of Hope" over 640 miles in 100 Connecticut cities and towns. The run began in 1981 as a way to increase public awareness and raise funds for the Special Olympics. Connecticut became involved in the run in 1986, which has become the largest Special Olympics fundraiser in the state.

Nationally, the Law Enforcement Torch Run involves more than 85,000 law enforcement officers and is carried through all 50 states and 35 nations. Last year—its 25th—the Torch Run raised \$25.5 million for Special Olympics programs around the world.

Eastern's Campus Police Department has participated in the run since 2001 and has raised around \$3,000 yearly for Special Olympics Connecticut. Further donations can

be made payable to “Special Olympics Connecticut,” and may be sent to Officer David DeNunzio at the Eastern Connecticut State University Police Department, who can be contacted for more information at (860) 465-5310.

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Eastern Connecticut State University is part of the Connecticut State University (CSU) system and is the state’s public liberal arts university. ECSU serves more than 5,000 students each year on its Willimantic campus.