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Florida Attorney General's Office News Release

VIDEO: AG Moody Encourages Floridians to Participate in Programs Supporting Law Enforcement Ahead of National Night Out Against Crime



TALLAHASSEE, Fla.—Ahead of National Night Out Against Crime, Attorney General Ashley Moody is encouraging Floridians to participate in programs designed to help build bonds between Florida law enforcement and local communities. National Night Out Against Crime is a nationwide campaign that promotes engaging with local law enforcement officers, strengthening community partnerships and supporting crime-prevention programs.

Attorney General Ashley Moody said, "National Night Out Against Crime promotes partnerships between local law enforcement and the communities they serve. Tonight, events will be held across the state as people come together and take a stand with law enforcement against crime. I encourage Floridians to search for a nearby event and show up to support our officers and those who take an active role in keeping our communities safe."

Attorney General Moody implemented several programs to strengthen relationships between law enforcement and communities:

• <u>Back the Blue</u>: This program highlights law enforcement officers, citizens and organizations taking extraordinary steps to forge positive relationships between law enforcement and

local communities. It also recognizes officers or deputies who go above and beyond the call of duty to protect Floridians.

- <u>Bigs in Blue</u>: This mentoring program, through Big Brothers Big Sisters of America, connects youth with LEOs in communities throughout the nation.
- <u>Hallway Heroes</u>: This initiative is designed to strengthen the relationship between students and school resource officers to increase safety in schools. The program encourages students to build bonds of trust with school resource officers and report suspicious activity or crime to the officers; and
- **TIPS: **TIPS is the first-ever, statewide phone number for anonymous citizen crime reporting. Floridians can call this number on their cellphones from anywhere in the state to provide anonymous information to help law enforcement solve cases and stop crime.

To learn more about National Night Out Against Crime and to find a list of cities hosting events, visit NATW.org/About.

To report a crime in progress, call 911. To learn about more initiatives supporting Florida law enforcement, visit Attorney General Moody's website at MyFloridaLegal.com.

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