



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 28, 2018

Contact: [Aaron Snell](#), Public Information Officer, Media Line: 425-257-7444

Local law enforcement celebrates Special Olympics athletes Ceremony to be held today

EVERETT – Special Olympics athletes, along with over 40 law enforcement personnel from across the country, will carry the Special Olympics Torch through Everett on the final leg of the Torch Run this Thursday.

A welcoming ceremony with speakers representing local law enforcement and government will take place partway through the run at the Snohomish County Plaza. The Torch Run is occurring as runners from around the country carry torches to meet in Seattle on July 1 for the start of the 2018 Special Olympics USA Games, which will take place at Husky Stadium.

“We’re honored to have the athletes carry the Flame of Hope through our community,” said Everett Police Chief Dan Templeman. “Our officers have long been supporters of Special Olympics and are proud to run beside the athletes to raise awareness for such an important cause.”

The Law Enforcement Torch Run (LETR) began in 1981 and is the largest public awareness vehicle and grassroots fundraiser for Special Olympics. Known as Guardians of the Flame, law enforcement and Special Olympics athletes carry the Flame of Hope into the Opening Ceremony of Special Olympics competitions around the world.

Annually, more than 97,000 law enforcement personnel participate in LETR to help promote acceptance and inclusion for people with intellectual disabilities. The 2018 Special Olympics USA Games in Seattle will host more than 4,000 athletes and 10,000 volunteers to support competition in 14 different sports.

Community members are invited to attend a short ceremony for the athletes and runners that will be held Thursday, June 28 at 3:50 p.m. at the Snohomish County Plaza. Members of the Everett Police Department and City Administration will help welcome the athletes and show support as they head to the Olympic Games. The official finish line will be at Funko (2802 Wetmore Ave), who is sponsoring welcome gifts for the team, before the group moves to the Plaza.

For more information about the Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics, visit www.lettr.org.

###