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PRESS RELEASE

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DATE: March 22, 2017

SAN FERNANDO POLICE ANNOUNCE "TIP-A-COP" TO BENEFIT SPECIAL OLYMPICS

San Fernando, CA – The San Fernando Police Department and San Fernando Police Officers Association will host its second annual Tip-A-Cop event on **Thursday, April 13, 2017, from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm**, at Heavenly Pancakes, located at 665 N. Maclay Avenue, San Fernando.

This is your chance to have a uniformed Officer, Sergeant, Lieutenant or maybe even our Chief of Police help serve you as you enjoy your breakfast or lunch. The public is invited and strongly encouraged to again join us and support this great cause. Officers will be raising money for the Special Olympics of Southern California Tri-Valley area, which serves people with intellectual disabilities in the City of San Fernando.

"We are so pleased to be hosting our second annual Tip a Cop. I know the community will come out and support us," says Officer Evelyn Diaz, event chairperson/organizer. "The money we raise is for a great cause, Special Olympics. Last year we raised over \$3,000. It shows our city may be small in number but big in heart!" Law Enforcement and Special Olympics have a great partnership beyond this Tip-A-Cop event, including volunteering in The Torch Run, Opening Ceremonies and awarding athlete's medals and ribbons at competitions throughout the region.

San Fernando Police Officers Association President Saul Garibay said, "We are proud to again support this event as an Association and have our members donate their time to such a great cause." Chief Anthony Vairo said, "We cherish the relationship we have with Special Olympics and I am proud of the men and women in our department for volunteering their time again this year to support such a worthy event and cause."

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"All the money raised at Tip-A-Cop stays right here in the Tri-Valley Region, which serves people in San Fernando, and benefits our local athletes with intellectual disabilities. The money raised helps pay for equipment, transportation, competitions, and uniforms for our athletes so they are able to participate at no cost to them and their families such as the basketball program here in San Fernando and the soon to start soccer program here in San Fernando for athletes with intellectual disabilities," said Laura Mayo, Special Olympics Assistant Vice President.

Tri-Valley has over 650 athletes who are training in six sports in the Spring/ Summer season and four in the Fall/ Winter. If you are interested in volunteering to be a coach, or know someone who would like to be an athlete, please call **Special Olympics Tri-Valley** office at 661.489.0540 or email lmayo@sosc.org.

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