## PRESS RELEASE



JOIN US FOR THE "Jimmy Chevalier Memorial" LEG OF THE 2019 LAW ENFORCEMENT TORCH RUN

Local Law Enforcement officers will carry the "Flame of Hope" for Special Olympics Louisiana throughout the area on Wednesday, May 22, 2019. Law Enforcement Officers from agencies across the state will be participating to bring awareness to Special Olympics Louisiana and the upcoming State Summer Games.

The RAPIDES PARISH leg of the Louisiana Law Enforcement Torch Run details:

Date: 5/22/2019 Time: 10:30 AM Location: It will start at – Pineville City Marshals Office, 904 Main St, Pineville, LA 71360 It will end at – Rapides Parish Court House, 701 Murray St, Alexandria, LA

## The Run will be followed by a Ceremony on the steps of the Court House to which the public is invited. Approximate time is 11:00 AM.

<u>Agencies participating are:</u> Pineville City Marshals Office, Rapides Parish Sheriff's Office, Alexandria Police Department, Pineville Police Department, Pinecrest Support and Services, Louisiana Probation and Parole, Louisiana State Police

The Law Enforcement Torch Run® for Special Olympics is an international series of torch relays, run by law enforcement officers leading up to each state or nation's Special Olympics Summer Games. The Special Olympics Louisiana State Summer Games will be held **May 24-26, 2019** on the campus of Southeastern Louisiana University in Hammond. Officers will carry the torch from all points of the state beginning in May with a series of runs throughout the month. The final leg of the run will begin at 6:30 pm in Hammond and will end at SLU's Pat Kenelly Diamond at Alumni Field for the Opening Ceremony of the State Summer Games. Photo and interview opportunities will be available at the end of the run. All Law Enforcement Torch Run events are open to the public.

Special Olympics Louisiana's Law Enforcement Torch Run hosts various fundraising events in all areas of the state year round. The Law Enforcement Torch Run® is Special Olympics' largest annual grass roots fund raising and public awareness campaign. This year the Torch Run is celebrating its 35<sup>th</sup> year. Officers carry the "Flame of Hope" throughout Louisiana and work year-round conducting other fund raising activities for Special Olympics Louisiana. For more information on the Law Enforcement Torch Run or events in your area, visit <u>www.laso.org</u>.

**Special Olympics Louisiana** (SOLA) is a state-wide, 501(C) 3 Non-profit organization that changes lives by promoting understanding, acceptance and inclusion between people with and without intellectual disabilities. SOLA offers year-round programs for 8,000 children and adults with intellectual disabilities in all 64 parishes with the help of 6,000 volunteers. Health, education, leadership, family, training and sports programs are available for people beginning at age 2 and there is no upper age limit. There is no cost to participate in Special Olympics.