

## **NEIGHBORS**IN UNIFORM

A newsletter from Gwinnett Police

March 2024

Welcome to Neighbors in Uniform, a monthly newsletter that provides information about Gwinnett County Police events, topics, programs, and initiatives. We are honored to have the respect and trust of the residents we serve and protect, and we're happy to be a resource and support.

Happy Women's History Month. Don't forget to celebrate the phenomenal women in your life!

Women's History Month Spotlight: 911 Communications Director Michelle Miller

As we celebrate Women's History Month, it's essential to highlight the achievements of women who have made significant contributions in their fields. Today, we shine a light on our 911 Communications Division Director Michelle Miller, whose role is critical. She is responsible for managing the complex and high-stakes environment of our 911 center. Our 911 Communications officers serve as the first point of contact in most emergency situations and are a lifeline to first responders and the community.

"The decision made by the department in 2021 to elevate 911 Communications to a division and place it under the leadership of someone with a background in 911 is something I am very proud that our department did. It sent a strong message to the 911 center staff, who are all civilian employees, that their knowledge, skills, and experience are valued as much as that of their sworn counterparts," shared Director Miller.



Miller started her career with Gwinnett Police 22 years ago. She was a single mother seeking a stable job to provide for her daughter. Miller never imagined this job would be a life-long career. Since then, she's earned several degrees and certifications including, a Bachelor of Business Administration in actuarial science, master's in applied economics, and Master of Business Administration in management, all while earning Georgia POST certifications in management, supervision, and senior instruction.

Miller's impact extends beyond her immediate responsibilities. She serves as an inspiration for young women aspiring to leadership roles in public service. Her career is a testament to the importance of dedication, hard work, and the pursuit of excellence. Often, women are hesitant to consider careers in law enforcement, but there are other rewarding opportunities outside of policing, such as 911 Communications, Crime Scene Investigations, Crime Analysis, Evidence, Records, and other professional staff.

As we honor the contributions of all women, let's take a moment to appreciate the work of Director Miller and countless others like her who serve our communities but don't carry a gun or wear a badge. Their legacy is not just in the roles they fulfill but in the paths they pave for future generations of women leaders.

Share your gate access with the 911 Center

With the growing use of privacy gates at the entrances to businesses, subdivisions, and private residences, it is imperative that first responders have access in the event of an emergency. The Gwinnett County 911 center maintains a list of gate codes and other emergency contact information that can be



used by the police department, fire department, and emergency medical service units as they respond to calls for service.

If you would like to provide your gate code and emergency contact information to Gwinnett County first responders, please email the 911 center at <a href="mailto:E911Admin@gwinnettcounty.com">E911Admin@gwinnettcounty.com</a> and request an emergency contact form for your property/community.

Take a Firearm Safety and Security class at your local precinct

Our Firearm Safety and Security classes aim to teach residents guidelines and best practices for safe gun handling. The classes are offered at all police precincts and taught by local law enforcement personnel.

Registration is required and seating is limited. Youth who plan to attend must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Residents are prohibited from bringing their own guns to class. All classes start promptly at 6:30pm.



Visit **GwinnettCounty.com/FirearmSafety** to register for one of upcoming classes below:

- March 13, South Precinct, 2180 Stone Drive, Lilburn
- April 15, Bay Creek Precinct, 185 Ozora Road, Grayson
- May 6, North Precinct, 2735 Mall of Georgia Boulevard, Buford
- June 5, East Precinct, 2273 Alcovy Road, Dacula
- July 17, Central Precinct, 3125 Satellite Boulevard, Duluth

## **Badges and Books with Gwinnett Police**



Come out and grab a new book or cup of coffee and meet officers from the Bay Creek and South Precincts at our Badges and Books event. We welcome the opportunity to get to know residents and answer any questions you may have.

Meet us on **Thursday, March 21** from **10:00am to noon** at Barnes and Noble, located at 1350 Scenic Highway, Suite 100 in Snellville. This is in The Shoppes at Webb Gin retail complex. We look forward to seeing you there!

Up to \$7,100 in incentives offered at Gwinnett Police hiring event

Do you know someone with a heart for service? Join us at our next hiring event on **Saturday, March 23** starting at 8:00 a.m.

at the Gwinnett County Police Training Center, located at 854 Winder Highway in Lawrenceville. This is a unique opportunity to complete the first phase of our two-phase hiring process. Conditional job offers may be given during this event along with a \$5,100 hiring incentive and \$2,000 relocation incentive to move to Gwinnett County.

To become a police officer, applicants must have a high school diploma or GED, be a United States citizen, be eligible for POST certification, possess a valid driver's license from their state of residency, and be 21 years old by the time they graduate from the police academy.

The Gwinnett County Police Department offers all officers a 4% annual raise and a 5% shift differential for Night Watch uniform patrol officers. Educational incentives of 3% for a 2-year college degree and a 6% incentive for a 4-year college degree are awarded to those who qualify.

To learn more and apply in advance, visit <u>GwinnettPoliceJobs.com</u>. If you have any questions, contact Investigator Hideshi Valle at 770.513.5513, or email <u>PDRecruiter@GwinnettCounty.com</u>.

Talent and exhibitors wanted for the 10th annual Multicultural Festival



Gwinnett is one of the most diverse counties in the United States. Our diversity is our strength and worth celebrating!

Mark your calendars for the 10th annual Multicultural Festival and County Government Open House to take place on **Saturday, May 18,** from **10:00am to 2:00pm**, at Gwinnett Place Mall located at 2100 Pleasant Hill Road in Duluth. The festival celebrates Gwinnett's diverse community of nearly one million residents and showcases live performances of traditional music, dance, instruments and other performing arts. From Bollywood dance to Caribbean steel pan to African drums, let

the rhythm unite us! The open house is a great opportunity to meet the people who work in the County departments and discover what each department does to serve the community.

The festival is a platform for unity, learning, and appreciation. If you're a talented performing artist and interested in contributing to the vibrant mosaic that makes Gwinnett special, please fill out a <u>talent application</u> form. The deadline to apply is **Friday, March 29.** 

Applications are also being accepted for event exhibitors who would like to display traditional clothing, crafts, artifacts, or instruments that represent your culture while sharing information about language, customs, and cultural practices. <a href="Exhibitor applications">Exhibitor applications</a> will be accepted until **Friday, April 19.** 

We look forward to the opportunity to proudly share your heritage, traditions, and artistic expressions with a wide audience to promote cross-cultural understanding and showcase the rich tapestry of cultures that thrive in Gwinnett County.



## Nominations for the Rising Star Award



The Gwinnett County Police Department wants to recognize the youth in our community who are actively making good choices and a positive impact. We are accepting nominations for the Rising Star Award until **Friday, March 29**. The Rising Star Award recognizes Gwinnett youth who are active volunteers in the community and are proactive in improving the lives of others.

Our Community Affairs Section will review the nominations and recognize our Rising Stars in May 2024. Award recipients will receive a Rising Star Award, a chief of police coin, VIP tour of the Gwinnett County Police Training Center, and other prizes. Review the <a href="mailto:criteria and nomination guidelines">criteria and nomination guidelines</a> to nominate a Rising Star today!

## Safety Tip of the Month: Protect your vehicle

Avoid being the next victim of a car break-in by following these safety tips:

- · Always lock your vehicle and close your windows
- Always park your vehicle inside your garage if you have one
- Check your door handles before walking away to assure the doors are locked



- Do not leave any valuable items inside your vehicle; purses, backpacks, laptops, cell phones, tablets, GPS units, and firearms should be secured with you each time you leave your vehicle
- If you do need to secure items in your vehicle temporarily, always place items out of sight and do so before you reach your final destination. Criminals watch when you place a purse or laptop in your trunk before you go walking at a park, and they know you will be gone for a while.

- Never leave valuables in your vehicle overnight. Charging cords, sunglasses, garage door openers, and loose change should be out of sight
- . Report any suspicious vehicles or individuals to the police department

For questions regarding the Neighbors in Uniform newsletter, please contact Rachael Warnsley at Rachael.Warnsley@GwinnettCounty.com or 770.513.5348. Be sure to follow us on Facebook, X, and Instagram @GwinnettPD.











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