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New Bern, North Carolina

NEW BERN

Police and Community come together here.

New Bern Police Department
PO Box 1129
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(252) 672-4100

Toussaint E. Summers, Jr.
Chief of Police

For Immediate Release **April 25, 2014**

New Bern Police Department to Host *Coffee with a Cop* on May 8, 2014

The New Bern Police Department will host *Coffee with a Cop* on May 8, 2014, at 10:00 a.m.at Ghent Sandwich Shop, 1210 Pollock Street, New Bern. Officers from the New Bern Police Department and community members will come together in an informal and friendly atmosphere, to discuss community issues, build relationships, and drink coffee.

Coffee with a Cop provides a unique opportunity for community members to ask questions and learn more about the ways the department is making an impact in our neighborhoods. All community members are invited to attend.

The majority of contact law enforcement has with the public happens during emergencies or emotional situations. Those situations are not always the most effective times for relationship building with the community, and some community members may feel that officers are unapproachable on the street. *Coffee with a Cop* breaks down barriers and allows for one-on-one interaction in a relaxed environment.

"We hope that community members will feel comfortable to ask questions, bring concerns, or simply get to know our officers," said Police Chief Toussaint Summers, "These interactions are the foundation of community partnerships."

Coffee with a Cop is a national initiative supported by The United States Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services. Similar events are being held across the county, as local police departments strive to make lasting connections with the communities they serve.

The program aims to advance the practice of community policing through improving relationships between police officers and community members "one cup of coffee at a time." Please contact Sergeant Doug Ipock with questions at 252-672-4100 or ipockd@newbernnpd.org.

The New Bern Police Department is committed to partnering with the community. Citizens are encouraged to become a **"Partner in Policing,"** by reporting suspected illegal activity to the New Bern Police Department's **TIPS** line at **(252) 636-5034** or the Craven County Crime Stoppers line at 633-5141. For additional information, please contact Lt. Ronda Allen, Public Information Officer at the New Bern Police Department at (252) 672-4123.

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Toussaint E. Summers, Jr., Chief of Police