



## **14<sup>th</sup> Annual Washington, DC Area Police “Stop the Violence” Futsal (Indoor Soccer) Tournament**

For the past fourteen years, police officers in the Washington, DC area have combined efforts to assist local children and families of fallen police officers by organizing an annual charity indoor soccer (Futsal) tournament. Police men and women’s soccer teams from local Washington, DC departments and from police departments across North America and around the world have been invited and many will participate in the 2009 tournament.

The **14<sup>th</sup> Annual Washington, DC Area Police “Stop the Violence” Futsal (Indoor Soccer) Tournament** will be held on April 4 and April 5, 2008 at the Linganore High School, 5850 Eaglehead Drive, Ijamsville, MD 21754. The Maryland State Police will be the host department for this event. We anticipate that approximately 500 athletes will compete and 1000 spectators will view this exciting event.

Participating teams will include city or regional police departments from NYPD, LAPD, Philadelphia, MPDC, Montgomery County Maryland, Howard County Maryland, U.S. Secret Service, U.S. Customs, Bermuda, Toronto, Holland, Germany, Quebec and Belgium to name a few.

This event is designed to show the commitment that law enforcement officers have for their community and their fallen colleagues. Law enforcement officers realize that they must reach out to the community in which they patrol and help the families of their brothers and sisters. This is another crime prevention tactic to help “Stop the Violence”.

This event has raised over \$100,000 for local charity organizations over the past 13 years. Proceeds from the 2009 “Stop the Violence” Tournament will benefit the Tobin Triebel Memorial Fund.

Maryland State Police First Sergeant Tobin Triebel was dedicated to the community in which he patrolled. He was a trooper/flight paramedic for more than 13 years. Tobin spent his entire career working to save those who were most critically ill or injured. Tragically, his own life was taken after being hit by a truck while jogging on a rural North Carolina roadway before a soccer tournament. Faithful to his mission to the end, his final effort to save others was the donation of his organs. His death has left a tremendous hole in the hearts and lives of his surviving family and the community.

When a police officer is killed in the “line of duty”, a grateful department and community say “thank you for laying down your life to save our lives,” and many benefits pass to the family that has been left behind. But because Tobin’s life was taken while he was “off duty”, the benefits passing to his family are far short of their present and future needs.

Now it’s our turn to say “thank you” to Tobin. We are all part of a grateful community that remembers Tobin as a neighbor, friend, flight paramedic, trooper, volunteer, soccer coach, loving husband, and devoted father.

The event will also assist the Washington DC Area Police Soccer Teams “**Kids with Cops**” program. This program is community outreach program is spearheaded by the City of Gaithersburg Police Chief John King.

Police officers assist underprivileged children by providing a soccer enrichment program that teaches them the game of soccer. The program focuses on developing a youth soccer players fundamentals, teamwork, camaraderie and the spirit of the game. However, it is more than a soccer program. Their positive interaction within the community in which they patrol has proven to be essential to the community’s growth. Their involvement in after-school programs has proven to be a positive crime prevention tactic by providing guidance and educating our counties children. The program helps keep children off the streets and the needless risk of becoming involved in gangs, drugs, alcohol and criminal activity. With proper funding, this program will reduce crime and violence, and help children learn the skills and values they need to become good neighbors and responsible adults.

This event is more than just an indoor soccer tournament. This event focuses on camaraderie, sportsmanship and the commitment that police officers have to further help our communities.

I can not express how important it is for police officers to become more involved in the community in which they patrol. Through community policing they can make a difference in hundreds of young lives.

For updated tournament information please visit [www.soccersensationsllc.com](http://www.soccersensationsllc.com).

Sincerely,

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