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Media Contact: Julie Toledo, 715.536.7755



## 2015 Special Olympics 'Flame of Hope' Comes to Huntington Beach Next Monday, July 20

- *Flame carried by an international team of law enforcement officers on its way to the opening ceremonies at the Los Angeles Coliseum for the 2015 Special Olympics World Games*

**What:** The *Flame of Hope*, the official torch for the Special Olympics World Games Los Angeles 2015, will be carried through the City of Huntington Beach with a ceremony to be held at Pier Plaza. Please join Mayor Jill Hardy and Police Chief Robert Handy as they welcome the law enforcement officers who serve as the Guardians of the *Flame of Hope* and the Special Olympic athletes as they participate in the Law Enforcement Torch Run Final Leg.

Community members are encouraged to join the celebration alongside law enforcement to express support for these athletes! Throughout the journey of the Final Leg, law enforcement officers from around the world will be spreading the message of acceptance and inclusion for children and adults with intellectual disabilities.

**When:** **Monday, July 20, 2015 at 3:30 pm at Pier Plaza.**  
**The Torch Run will start at the Huntington Beach Police Department at 2000 Main Street at 3:15 p.m. and run south on Main Street to the Pier.**  
**We encourage folks to line Main Street to cheer the runners on!**

**Who:** Speaking at the ceremony will be Captain Derek McCorkhill of the Oregon Coffee Creek Correctional Facility and Special Olympic athlete and Final Leg runner Joshua Norris from Virginia, as well as Mayor Hardy, Police Chief Handy, and Mayor Pro Tem Jim Katapodis serving as the emcee. Law Enforcement officers and Special Olympic athletes are selected by their respective Special Olympics programs to be one of the 126 Final Leg Team members based on their dedication and commitment to the Special Olympics movement.

**Why:** The *Flame of Hope* will complete its journey on 25 July when the Law Enforcement Torch Run Final Leg team carries it into the Opening Ceremony of the 2015 World Games on 25 July, and it ignites the cauldron at the historic Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum, site of the 1932 and '84 Olympics Opening Ceremony. The public will be able to see daily photographs, videos and read reports of the *Flame of Hope's* journey online at: [letr.finalleg.org](http://letr.finalleg.org) and on social with #FinalLeg2015 on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com) and @LETRforSO on [Twitter](https://twitter.com).

For more information on the 2015 Special Olympics World Games, including volunteer and sponsorship opportunities, visit [www.LA2015.org](http://www.LA2015.org) and on social with #ReachUpLA on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com), [Twitter](https://twitter.com) and [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com).

