

# HARLINGEN POLICE DEPARTMENT

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HONOR ◆ COURAGE ◆ INTEGRITY



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## Harlingen Police Department to host *Coffee with a Cop* November 11, 2016

Program offers opportunity to meet local officers, discuss community issues

On November 11<sup>th</sup>, 2016, officers from Harlingen Police Department and the community will come together in an informal, neutral space to discuss community issues, build relationships, and drink coffee.

All community members are invited to attend. The event will begin at 7:30 am at the Cracker Barrel located at 110 Bass Pro Drive. Please contact Sgt. A. Alvear with any questions: 956-216-5525, [AAAlvear@harlingenpolice.com](mailto:AAAlvear@harlingenpolice.com).

*Coffee with a Cop* provides a unique opportunity for community members to ask questions and learn more about the department's work in Harlingen's neighborhoods.

The majority of contacts law enforcement has with the public happen 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 a relaxed, one-on-one interaction.

"We hope that community members will feel comfortable to ask questions, bring concerns, or simply get to know our officers. 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.



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