

CITY OF JERSEY CITY

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Jersey City to Celebrate the 27th Anniversary of National Night Out Against Crime

*The Jersey City Police Department Will Join Residents in an Effort to
Fight for Safer Streets and Communities*

JERSEY CITY—On Tuesday, August 3, 2010, Mayor Jerramiah T. Healy the Municipal Council and the Community Relations Unit of the Jersey City Police Department will host the 27th Anniversary of National Night Out (NNO), a crime prevention event sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch (NATW). Events will take place simultaneously, from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at Pershing Field and Arlington Park.

National Night Out is celebrated by citizens, law enforcement agencies, community groups, businesses and local officials in more than 10,000 communities from all 50 states, U.S. territories, Canadian cities and military bases worldwide.

“Our top priority is to keep our neighborhoods safe,” said **Mayor Healy**. “Police and residents need to work together to protect the community and form a friendlier environment for the children of Jersey City. Events such as these not only help bring the community closer, but are a great way for residents to familiarize themselves with the police department, and obtain information on city services.”

Each year, National Night Out encourages neighbors to come together, get acquainted, and have a fun-filled safe night to foster neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships. There will be balloons, refreshments, plenty of entertainment and activities, games, and giveaways in each park. Various community and service organizations will be on hand to provide information to the public.

Mayor Healy will visit National Night Out locations to commend and acknowledge those individuals and groups who are providing invaluable services and resources to their community.

“It is important to recognize outstanding citizens of our city for their civic achievements and dedication to their community,” continued **Mayor Healy**. “It is their selfless acts that make a positive impact on our City and help us make Jersey City better.”

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Sponsored by Target, NNO's national sponsor, the POBA and PFS Logistics, the event promises to bring fun-filled entertainment from the Hope Center, Family Fitness martial arts, the Red Bull Soccer Street Team, Alfred's Party Time, Salsa Fever on 2, Au Capoeira School, and much more.

Also present at the event are the US Army, US Air Force, US Marines, US National Guard, Port Authority Police Department, US Customs and Border Protection, Jersey City Medical Center, and Civil Air Patrol.

Mayor Healy has always been a strong proponent of reducing crime and promoting safer streets. **Mayor Healy's Operation Lifesaver**, a gun buy-back and amnesty program, removed nearly 900 guns off the streets. In conjunction with the Jersey City Police Department, the Mayor created the city's first **Anti-Gang Task Force**, as well as the **Senior Care Card Program** and the **Senior Police Academy**. Other crime and safety initiatives supported by the Mayor include enforcing the business curfew, increasing the number of **Closed Circuit Television (CCTV)** cameras in the Urban Enterprise Zones, and putting back police officers on foot and bike patrol.

The Community Relations Unit (CRU) is assigned to improving the effectiveness of the Police Department by facilitating a cooperative effort between the police and the community through various city-wide programs and services. **National Night Out** is one of the Community Relations Unit's most notable events. It heightens crime-prevention awareness and generates support for anti-crime programs.

Other CRU projects include the Senior Citizen Police Academy, Community Engagement Consortium, the Jersey City PAL partnership, Otto the Auto Child Safety Program, Bridging the Gap, gang awareness, and police recruitment.

For more information, please contact **Jersey City Police Officer Lorenzo Tosado, Community Relations at 201-547-5682 or 551-265-4934.**

All media inquiries should be directed to Jennifer Morrill, Press Secretary Mayor Jerramiah T. Healy at 201-547-4836 or 201-376-0699.///