

The Tempe Police Foundation and Tempe Police Department will be hosting the city's first "Run from the Cops" 5K event Dec. 1 at Tempe Town Lake.

According to a Nov. 1 press release, this event will be a chance for the Tempe Police Department to interact with the community in a less professional environment. Some of the activities will include an event expo with police vehicles, including the SWAT Armored Vehicle, Police Motorcycle, Patrol Squad Car, and a Police Command Van.

All proceeds will go towards the nonprofit Tempe Police Foundation which is established, "to support and strengthen the services, programs of the Tempe Police Department."

The TPF accepts tax exempt donations to supplement the city's budget processes; with past donations going towards places like the K9 Unit, departmental training programs, and the families of fallen or injured officers in times of need.

"The Tempe Police Foundation is one more way that our community can support the men and women who dedicate themselves every day to keeping the families in our community safe," said Tempe Police Foundation President Laura Forbes in the press release.

She is a former Assistant Chief of Police and Tempe resident.

Molly Enright, the Community Affairs/PIO Specialist for TPD, said that the TPD and TPF wanted "to hold an event that would allow officers to spend off-hours time with people in our community, have fun and support a worthy cause."

Enright also said that the TPD is no stranger to charitable events that benefit the community. It supports the athletes of the Special Olympics by participating in the Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run which annually raises millions of dollars to benefit over 2 million Special Olympics athletes around the world.

"Our Chief, Tom Ryff, along with support from across the Department, just chaired the City of Tempe's Annual United Way Campaign, which raises money for a multitude of non-profit worthy causes, and benefits many deserving people who most need assistance," she said.

A lot of the officers plan to race in uniform for the Run from the Cops 5k and they start at 8:30 in the morning, the same time the free 1/2K Fuzz Run for children 10 and under will begin.

The main participant 5K will begin at 9 a.m. and is one lap around Tempe Town Lake. It will be chip timed.

Advance registration is only \$25, versus \$40 for day-of-race registration, and will include a Run from the Cops t-shirt. Packet pick-up and day of registration begins at 7 a.m.

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