



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **MCSO EXPLORERS WILL REPORT FOR DUTY AT ANTHEM'S INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION**

**Anthem, Ariz.** – The North Valley Posse will have an increased presence at the Anthem community's 15<sup>th</sup> annual Independence Day Celebration, July 3 in the ACC Community Park. According to Sgt. Shawn Braaten with Maricopa County Sheriff's Office (MCSO), the MCSO Explorers - North Valley Squad youth will also be on patrol.

Approximately a dozen of the Explorers on duty that evening will be Anthem youth, with others coming from another district. The Explorers will shadow Posse members and MCSO deputies as they patrol the event. At the conclusion of the event, they'll be repositioned at the crosswalks instructing people as to when they can cross the very busy, heavily congested roadways.

As a result of their participation, there will be an increased presence in the park by deputies and Posse members on duty to provide the necessary resources for event security, patron safety and Explorers training.

The Mobile Command Center will once again have a presence at the event. According to Braaten, the Command Post will be in the same location as last year, in the parking lot nearest the softball fields. When emergencies, natural and man-made disasters or special events requiring on-site incident command occur, the mobile command center becomes a vital component to the mission. Short tours will be available during the evening.

The MCSO Explorers - North Valley Squad recruited 23 new youth interested in pursuing a career in law enforcement to the orientation held April 26. Of them, 15 applied and were accepted to be members and three of those were selected for the two-week long Explorer Academy for more in depth mental and physical training and testing.

As Explorers, young adults have the opportunity to assist the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office as they broaden their understanding and firsthand knowledge of the challenges and job skills that make up their community's law enforcement service. For more information, please visit [www.nvposse.org](http://www.nvposse.org) or [www.mcsoexplorers.com](http://www.mcsoexplorers.com).

The role of the North Valley Posse and MCSO on duty at the Independence Day Event is to ensure the safety of residents and guests. This begins with the traffic control plan that is put into place beginning at 3 p.m. on July 3. This plan ensures that traffic flows easily for the 25,000-plus event attendees.

### **Parking and traffic control plan**

*In effect Thursday, July 3, from 3 p.m. to midnight.*

- Anthem Way between Gavilan Peak Pkwy. and Independence Way will be restricted to one lane both eastbound and westbound.
  - The bike lane will be closed and cones will have the right vehicle lane blocked off. Cars are permitted to park on Anthem Way except where noted.
- Gavilan Peak Pkwy. between Anthem Way and Memorial Way will be restricted to one lane both northbound and southbound.
  - The bike lane will be closed and cones will have the right vehicle lanes blocked off. Cars are permitted to park on Gavilan Peak Pkwy. during this time period.
- Northbound Freedom Way and Independence Way must turn right onto Anthem Way.
- All traffic exiting the event to access I-17 will be re-routed to go eastbound on Anthem Way and southbound on Daisy Mountain Dr. to access the freeway from Daisy Mountain Dr..
- The ACC Community Center and the Community Center Parking Lot will close at 4 p.m. as it is the staging/fallout area for the fireworks display.

ValleyCrest Landscape Maintenance is the official sponsor of the event. For more information:

[mdemichele@anthemcouncil.com](mailto:mdemichele@anthemcouncil.com), 623-742-6050 or visit [www.OnlineAtAnthem.com/independence-day](http://www.OnlineAtAnthem.com/independence-day).

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**Anthem, Arizona** is a master planned community located in Maricopa County, Arizona. The Anthem Community Council, Inc. serves as a unifying entity for the Anthem community. The mission of the Anthem Community Council, Inc. is to establish and maintain a governing structure which will preserve, protect and enhance the plans, policies, infrastructure and resources needed to support a sense of community, ensure sound economic development and promote a quality of life for all Anthem residents.



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