



Media Alert

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WHAT

9th Annual Special Olympics Pennsylvania Torch Run from Pittsburgh to State College
Three-Day Event Kicks off 50th Annual Summer Games

WHEN

Tuesday, June 4th – Thursday, June 6th

June 4th: Day 1 Kickoff at PNC Park

- **8:15am-9:00am:** Torch Run Lighting Program on the field behind home plate

Guests in Attendance: Pittsburgh Pirates Joe Klimchak; Community & Public Affairs Vice President Patty Salerno; LETR State Director Pittsburgh Police Chief Scott Schubert; City of Pittsburgh Chief of Staff Dan Gilman; Port Authority CEO Katharine Kelleman; Chief of Staff Port Authority Vasti Amaro; Port Authority Police Department Lt. Rob Dipippa; SOPA Athlete Tommy Kreutzer; SOPA Athlete Tim Spence; Allegheny County Chief Executive Rich Fitzgerald; Allegheny County Sheriff William Mullen; Energy Transfer Sr. VP, Business Development Alan Vaina; Energy Transfer Associate Engineer Daniel Broodo; Energy Transfer Public Relations Specialist Lisa Dillinger.

WHO

Over 500 runners representing more than 50 law enforcement teams will participate in the Run and be either accompanied or cheered on by local Special Olympics program athletes. Participating law enforcement entities include: Pittsburgh Bureau of Police / Pittsburgh Bureau of Police SWAT / Allegheny County Sheriff's Office / Allegheny County Police / Port Authority PD / Mt. Lebanon PD / Clairton PD / Penn Hills PD / Monroeville PD / Findlay Township PD / University of Pittsburgh Police / Carnegie Mellon University Police / ATF Pittsburgh / FBI Pittsburgh / United States Secret Service Pittsburgh / Pennsylvania State Police Troop A & B

WHY

The Law Enforcement Torch Run is a 3-day segmented, 150 mile run from Pittsburgh (PNC Park) to Penn State University. More than 50 Law Enforcement Teams from across the state will participate in the Run to kick-off Special Olympics PA's largest competition – the 50th Annual Summer Games in State College.

The Run will officially Kick-Off on Tuesday, June 4 from home plate at PNC Park at 9:00 a.m. as law enforcement representatives from around the region and other dignitaries begin the long and inspiring journey with the lighting of the torch at home plate. It will then end with the lighting of the Flame of Hope during Opening Ceremonies at Penn State University's Medlar Field on Thursday evening, June 6th.

The course has been divided into 53 segments or "legs" ranging in length from approximately 2 to 4 miles. Law enforcement agencies have chosen a segment, and through their designated run coordinator, will run the torch for that leg. To date, nearly \$6,100,000 has been raised from Law Enforcement events in support of nearly 20,000 Special Olympics PA athletes.

DAY ONE NOTES OF INTEREST:

The kickoff ceremony will begin on the field at PNC Park sharply at 8:15 am. This program will include the passing of the Flame of Hope from base to base before the run takes off at 9:00 am.

DAY ONE TORCH RUN LEGS: Tuesday, June 4, 2019, Tentative Start Time: 9:00 am

PLEASE NOTE: All Times are Approximate

- **LEG 1: PNC Park / North Shore:** 9:00 am – 9:36 am / Open to all Law Enforcement PNC Park / through North Shore / Past Pgh PD HQ and through Heinz Field
- **LEG 2: Convention Center and Strip District:** 9:36 am-10:11 am / Pittsburgh Police SWAT. Past PNC Park / Across the Ft. Duquesne Bridge and through the DL Convention Center and ends at Pitt Ohio HQ
- **LEG 3: Grant Street:** 10:11 am -10:44 am / Clairton PD
- **LEG 4: Forbes Ave / Blvd of the Allies / Hot Metal Bridge:** 10:44 am-11:13 am / Pittsburgh SWAT Team /
- **LEG 5: Station Square Drive to the Highmark Stadium “GATE:** 11:13 am – 11:45 am / Allegheny County Sheriffs /
- **LEG 6: Bessemer Court / Smithfield Street / onto Heritage Trail/ into Market Square:** 12:00 pm – 12:30 pm / Port Authority PD

DAY TWO TORCH RUN LEGS: Wednesday, June 5, 2019, Tentative Start Time: 7:30 am

PLEASE NOTE: All Times are Approximate

- **LEG 16: Speedway Service Station (Alpine Village Rd/RT 22) to SHEETZ – (5076 William Penn Hwy):** 7:30 am – 8:05 am / Murrysville PD
- **LEG 17: SHEETZ to Cornerstone Ministries:** 8:05 am – 8:41 am / ATF
- **LEG 18: Cornerstone Ministries to RT 22 & Scenic Drive (by Gene’s Boots & Candies):** 8:41 am – 9:11 am / Allegheny County Police Department
- **LEG 19: RT 819 - Scenic Drive (by Gene’s Boots & Candies) to RT 819 (“Kelley’s Pizza” – 7205 RT22, Greensburg, PA):** 9:11 am – 9:36 am / Allegheny County Police Department
- **LEG 20: RT 22 & RT 819 (“Kelly’s Pizza”) to RT 22 & Hornack Drive (at jug handle):** 9:36 am – 10:11 am / Carnegie Mellon University
- **LEG 21: RT 22 & Hornack Drive (“jug handle”) to SHEETZ at RT 981 – (8299 RT 22, New Alexandria, PA):** 10:11 am – 10:38 am / Findlay Township PD

DAY THREE TORCH RUN LEGS: Thursday, June 6, 2019, Tentative Start Time: 7:30 am

PLEASE NOTE: All Times are Approximate

- **LEG 35: RT 22 Keystone Pacific Pride Truck Stop to RT 53:** 7:30 am – 8:02 am / Blair County Crime Solvers
- **LEG 36: ON RAMP of the Summit Exit / RT 22 (Admiral Peary Highway):** 8:02 am – 8:32 am / BCLEMF
- **LEG 37: Segment marker RT 22/70 on US RT 22:** 10:22 am – 10:47 am / Pittsburgh PD

Media are welcomed to attend any of the torch run stops or the reception at PNC Park. Contact either of the above-listed media contacts for further information.