



# Newport News Sheriff's Office

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## MEDIA RELEASE

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### Reducing Domestic Violence One Step at a Time

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Dad's Walk provides a unique opportunity to engage men in the effort to end domestic violence between intimate partners. After all, men play a vital role in healthy family relationships.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Dad's Walk will be held Saturday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> at Newport News Park. Registration at 8:30 A.M. Walks starts promptly at 9:00 A.M. Transitions Family Violence Services, the Newport News Domestic Violence Task Force (NNDVTF) and Newport News Sheriff's Office sponsor the event.

Gabe Morgan, Sheriff of Newport News is 100% behind the goal of the family friendly two-mile walk: celebrate and promote healthy relationships, and reduce domestic violence in our community. The Sheriff and deputies are leaders in the community, serving as positive role models.

Additionally, the Newport News Sheriff's Office (NNSO) is committed to reducing domestic violence internally... asking that its deputies and civilian employees sign a *Healthy Relationship Pledge*. The pledge has been implemented into NNSO policy and procedure. Sheriff Morgan plans to have internal training for employees. They will be educated about healthy relationships and positive gender norms. Deputies trained as mentors will provide further education for recruits.

NNSO deputies and civilian employees work in a high stress environment. Sheriff's Office employees must learn to communicate if the stress of work appears to be leaking into the home.

Since 1977, Transitions Family Violence Services has offered comprehensive intervention and prevention programs to help families with essential needs including emergency shelter, counseling, children's services. Learn more at [www.transitionsfvs.org](http://www.transitionsfvs.org) The NNDVTF is an all-volunteer coalition of agencies serving Peninsula communities in the fight against violence and abuse.

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