



Newport News Sheriff's Office

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MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR RELEASE: **Immediate**

DATE: **Januray 30, 2008**

Gang Prevention

The Commonwealth's Attorney's Office in Newport News is spearheading a Gang Prevention Program aimed at 8th grade students. The Newport News Sheriff's Office is one of the presenters.

Students at area middle schools will hear about the dangers of gang affiliation. As prosecutors, the Commonwealth's Attorney's Office will discuss the law and how it applies to gang related crimes. A citizen speaker will address the negative impact of organized gangs on the community.

The Sheriff's Office will discuss consequences. Who better to talk about consequences than inmates? Inmates have gone on-camera* to discuss their mistakes in an effort to prevent other young people from following their path. (*DVDs of the inmate interviews will be available to the media.)

Evidence shows that gangs are most often recruiting middle school aged children, but they are targeting kids as young as 10. Law enforcement must counter those efforts and keep kids from joining gangs.

WHO: Commonwealth's Attorney's Office, Newport News Sheriff's Office, Citizen's Police Academy

WHAT: GANG PREVENTION Program

WHEN:	WHERE:
Monday, February 4 @ 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	Reservoir Middle School 15638 Warwick Blvd.
Monday, February 4 @ 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.	Achievable Dream Middle & High School 5720 Marshall Ave.

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For more information, contact Lt. Kathleen Carey at 757-926-8747 or 757-813-6139.