



Newport News Sheriff's Office

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MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR RELEASE: **Immediate**

DATE: **April 4, 2011**

UPDATE:

Men Stand Against Rape by Wearing High Heels

Newport News Sheriff's deputies prove they are man enough by marching in "Walk a Mile in Her Shoes"

UPDATE on April 4, 2011

Seventy men from all walks of life marched in this year's Walk a Mile in Her Shoes. They raised a total of \$5,536. Newport News Sheriff Gabe Morgan and Newport News Mayor McKinley Price participated again. Airmen from Langley AFB had a team, as did the Peninsula Town Center Security Department. Cheerleaders from Hampton University were on-hand offering rousing voices of encouragement. Shop proprietors and their customers came out of the businesses along the route to cheer and applaud.

ORIGINAL RELEASE on March 31, 2011

The Annual "Walk a Mile in Her Shoes" event will be held Saturday, April 2nd at 11:00 a.m. (registration from 10am-11am) at the Peninsula Town Center in Hampton, VA. The men's march benefits the Center for Sexual Assault Survivors, a non-profit agency serving the Peninsula since 1996.

The Newport News Sheriff's Office has always been a proud participant in the event, and deputies plan to cross city lines and walk again this year. They will be in uniform, footwear being the only exception.

"Sheriff Gabe Morgan has been our biggest supporter," said Shawna Gray, Executive Director for the Center for Sexual Assault Survivors. "This is our fifth year doing this, and he has been onboard from the beginning. He has said that every year the heels are going to get higher."

The Sheriff's heels get higher as the pledges get higher. Last year the event raised \$11,000. The money supports the rape crisis center. All their services are free, including a 24-hour crisis hotline and one-on-one counseling.

"This year I have a pair of bright shiny red pumps. I figure red goes with more outfits than pink," joked Sheriff Morgan.

The way to curb the behavior of sexual violence is through education and awareness. This event certainly raises awareness -- and eyebrows. It is a light hearted way to get people involved in a serious matter.

WHO: The Center for Sexual Assault Survivors
WHAT: Walk a Mile in Her Shoes
WHEN: Saturday, April 2nd at 11:00 a.m. (registration 10am-11am)
WHERE: Peninsula Town Center, Hampton
HOW: call 599-9844
download pledge form -- www.visitthecenter.org
create online pledge form -- www.firstgiving.com/36004

Photos from last year's event attached to e-mail. (note the location change)