



# Kendall County

*Office of the Sheriff*

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## **For Immediate Release**

Date: May 30, 2019  
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### **LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS CARRY THE TORCH FOR SPECIAL OLYMPICS ILLINOIS**

Beginning June 2, 2019, law enforcement throughout Illinois will carry the “Flame of Hope” nearly 1,500 miles, running through hundreds of communities via 23 different legs (routes). The Flame of Hope will ultimately be delivered to Bloomington-Normal for the Opening Ceremony of the Special Olympics Illinois Summer Games on June 7.

On Wednesday, June 5 at 9am, a caravan of squad cars and runners from local Kendall County police agencies, including the Kendall County Sheriff’s Office, Montgomery PD, Oswego PD, Plano PD, and Yorkville PD, will be carrying the torch. A majority of the run will be along Orchard Road and Mill Street and then ending at the intersection of Rt. 34 and Washington Street. The runners will then meet with Special Olympics Illinois athletes at the Hudson Crossing Park in Oswego.

The Law Enforcement Torch Run® is the single largest year-round fundraising vehicle benefiting Special Olympics Illinois. The annual intrastate relay and its various fundraising projects have two goals: to raise money and to gain awareness for the athletes who participate in Special Olympics Illinois. The Law Enforcement Torch Run® has raised more than \$51 million over 33 years while increasing awareness of Special Olympics Illinois athletes and their accomplishments.

In addition to receiving donations that support their run, officers raise funds in various ways throughout the year, including Polar Plunges, a Cop on Rooftop event with Dunkin’ Donuts, Plane Pulls at O’Hare International Airport and SIU Airport, Truck Convoys, raffles, bike rides, golf tournaments and more.

Special Olympics Illinois is a not-for-profit organization offering year-round training and competition in 18 sports for more than 23,000 athletes with intellectual disabilities and over 17,000 Young Athletes ages 2-7 with and without intellectual disabilities. Special Olympics transforms the lives of people with intellectual disabilities, allowing them to realize their full potential in sports and in life. Special Olympics programs enhance physical fitness, motor skills, self-confidence, social skills and encourage family and community support. If you are interested in learning more about Special Olympics Illinois, volunteering or providing financial support to help make Special Olympics programs possible, contact your local Special Olympics agency, call 800-394-0562 or visit our website at [www.soill.org](http://www.soill.org). Follow Special Olympics Illinois on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).

For more information, leg routes, and kick-offs please visit: <https://www.soill.org/intrastate-relay-information/>