



Wednesday, October 13, 2016

City of Port St. Lucie
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Join us at the City of Port St Lucie's Forum on Race Relations & Inclusion on Nov. 5

PORT ST. LUCIE (Oct. 13, 2016) – The City of Port St. Lucie invites the public to engage in honest dialogue, express ideas and learn about others at its first **Forum on Race Relations & Inclusion** on November 5.

The Forum's mission is to bring the people of Port St. Lucie together to listen, share concerns, learn, plan, act and report on progress in maintaining and enhancing our promise of being a City for **ALL** people. The Forum will be from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Port St. Lucie Civic Center located at 9221 SE Civic Center Place.

The Forum will feature dynamic speakers and break-out sessions meant to inspire and open participants' minds to the lifestyles of all of those who call Port St. Lucie home. Please join us for engaging sessions that include topics on:

- Race and ethnicity;
- Fair and impartial policing;
- LGBTQ+: A Personal Journey;
- Disabilities;
- Immigration and inclusion;
- Religious tolerance; and
- Bridging the gap between the community and the police.

The lunch session will feature important information on the ACLU's model traffic stop and include discussion on what to do during a traffic stop.

The Port St. Lucie City Council agreed to move forward with this event in response to recent acts of violence

in the United States stemming from racial tension, terrorism, hate and a lack of understanding. Mayor Greg Oravec first brought the idea of this event to the City Council during its summer retreat. Since then, City staff and local stakeholders have organized what will be an eye-opening and valuable experience for the entire community.

Besides the talks, the Forum will feature a police department simulator, where participants will experience the split-second decisions officers must make in certain scenarios. Additionally, the local Original Highwaymen Artists, whose artwork helped shape the culture of St. Lucie County, will have paintings on display.

Please **RSVP by October 24** at www.cityofpsl.com/frri. Fill out the registration form with your name and contact information to participate in the interactive sessions, panel discussions, and lunch with the keynote speaker. This is a free, sponsored event but **seating is limited**.

However, all members of the public will be able to visit the community resource information booths and the police experience simulator from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. For more information, please visit: www.cityofpsl.com/frri.

If you would like to partner with the City and become a sponsor for this event, please email us your request at frri@cityofpsl.com.

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The City of Port St. Lucie is proud to be a hometown where people live, learn, work and play, and celebrate all of life's opportunities. With over 179,000 residents, Port St. Lucie is Florida's eighth largest city by population (South Florida's 3rd largest city). The City occupies an area of 120 square miles in St. Lucie County on Florida's east coast, about 50 miles north of West Palm Beach, half way between Miami and Orlando. The City provides most traditional municipal services including law enforcement, water and sewer, and public works. For more information, please visit: www.cityofpsl.com

