



*ACCREDITED LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY*



## **COUNTY OF ALBEMARLE POLICE DEPARTMENT**

# **SAFE Event – Situational Awareness for Everyone NEWS RELEASE – March 10, 2015**

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**FAX TO:** LOCAL MEDIA

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In light of tragic events in our community, many leaders, stakeholders and advocates came together, agreeing that we needed additional education regarding situational awareness, personal safety and domestic violence.

After seeing the success of the AWARE (Always Watch and Recognize (your) Environment) event for students at Monticello High School, we wanted to expand on the topic and open up the conversation to everyone in our community.

The next event focused on safety is called SAFE, Situational Awareness for Everyone. Once again, we will be partnering with Help Save the Next Girl and Ms. Trina Murphy will be sharing her personal experience regarding the murder of her niece, Alexis Murphy. This event will also feature a speaker from the One Love Foundation, created in memory of Yeardley Love with the goal of raising awareness about the warning signs of relationship violence. A victim who was involved in an abusive relationship is going to share her story and speak about the warning signs of an abusive relationship.

Our hope is that by sharing these experiences we can prevent future tragedies and better protect our community. In addition to the personal stories, we will have constructive feedback and advice about what you can do to protect yourself and your community. An ACPD detective and an officer with UVA PD will provide advice and talk about some of the safety initiatives already underway.

This event is a collaborative effort and is the result of many people and organizations coming together, committed to making a positive change. We would like to thank Albemarle County Public Schools, the Albemarle County Commonwealth Attorney's Office, the US Attorney's Office for the Western District of Virginia, the University of Virginia Police Department and countless other community members and advocates.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT: CARTER JOHNSON 434.972.4032

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**This event is open to everyone in our community and we believe it will be a powerful and productive conversation. We hope that you will join us on Monday, March 30th from 6:30-8pm at the auditorium at Monticello High School. There will be time for questions at the end of the program and two counselors will be in attendance if anyone has a specific need, concern or question after the event.**

**Carter Johnson  
Public Information Officer**

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