



ELMWOOD PARK POLICE DEPARTMENT  
NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH



*Program offers opportunity to meet local officers, discuss community issues*

## **Elmwood Park Police Department and Elmwood Park Neighborhood Watch Program to host Coffee with a Cop on October 14 from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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**ELMWOOD PARK** – On October 14, 2015, officers from the Elmwood Park Police Department and members of the Elmwood Park Neighborhood Watch Program will come together in an informal, neutral space to discuss community issues, build relationships, and drink coffee. *Coffee with a Cop* will take place at the Panera Bread restaurant, 7400 North Ave., on October 14 from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.

*Coffee with a Cop* provides a unique opportunity for community members to ask questions and learn more about the department's work in Elmwood Park neighborhoods.

The majority of contacts law enforcement have with the public happen during emergencies, or emotional situations. Those situations are not always the most effective times for relationship-building with the community, and some community members may feel that officers are unapproachable on the street. *Coffee with a Cop* breaks down barriers and allows for a relaxed, one-on-one interaction.

“We hope that community members will feel comfortable to ask questions, bring concerns, or simply get to know our officers,” said Chief Frank Fagiano. “These interactions are the foundation of community partnerships.”

*Coffee with a Cop* is a national initiative supported by The United States Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services. Similar events are being held across the county, as local police departments strive to make lasting connections with the communities they serve.

The program aims to advance the practice of community policing through improving relationships between police officers and community members one cup of coffee at a time.

[www.elmwoodpark.org](http://www.elmwoodpark.org)