

Mason City Police Department

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: MARCH 8, 2016

Contact Person: Jeremy Ryal, Crime Prevention Coordinator, 641-421-2716
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RE: COFFEE WITH A COP, Tuesday, March 15, 2016



MASON CITY – The Mason City Police Department is inviting all members of the community to join its officers in an informal, neutral space to discuss community issues, build relationships, and drink coffee (or lemonade for those who would prefer it). The event will be on Tuesday, March 15 at the Mason City Family YMCA, 1840 S. Monroe Ave, starting at 2:30 pm. Please contact Officer Jeremy Ryal with questions: 641-421-2716, jryal@masoncity.net.

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

The majority of contacts law enforcement has 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.

Coffee with a Cop has no set agenda or program. It is simply a time to ask questions, bring concerns, or just get to know the Officers of the Police Department. Who knows, you might even see an officer show off some skills on the basketball court.

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 build and improve relationships between police officers and community members one cup of coffee (or lemonade) at a time. ♦