

## HOLLIS POLICE DEPARTMENT

A Nationally Accredited Law Enforcement Agency

## **Press Release**

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: January 3, 2024

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The Hollis Police Department is pleased to announce a new initiative aimed at further enhancing communication and connection with the members of our safe and thriving community. This three-part series, titled "Community Conversations", will include three event dates beginning on January 25, 2024. In this first 'Community Conversation' event, we will take a deep dive into prevalent crime types in Hollis, how cases are investigated and prosecuted, the community's role in public safety, and updates on Department initiatives and strategies.

The second part of this series will be an event, held in partnership with School Administrative Unit 41 and the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force, will examine internet crimes against children and educate parents and students on how to stay safe in an online environment. It is anticipated that this event will be held in March 2024.

The third and final part of this series will, held in partnership with School Administrative Unit 41 and the Drug Enforcement Agency, will bring awareness to students and parents about the dangers of Fentanyl and the influx of counterfeit pills being marketed as legitimate that are killing Americans at an unprecedented rate. It is anticipated that this event will be held in May 2024.

Chief Hoebeke said of 'Community Conversations' initiative, "I am grateful for receiving feedback and input from some our community members, who expressed their belief that it would be helpful to hold a forum to discuss prevalent crimes in Hollis, especially those involving acts of vandalism. Over the course of several weeks, we worked to expand on this idea to include other important topics of great concern to public safety in our community. Specifically, those issues relative to the exposure to Fentanyl, and the exploitation of children through the use of the internet, social media, and other platforms are important for public safety not just in Hollis, but in communities across the country. We are excited and happy to facilitate these community conversations and we hope our community members join us for these events. We are grateful for the strong collaboration with the SAU 41, the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force, and the Drug Enforcement Agency."

As we near each event date, informational flyers will be distributed to community members. The first event, will be held on Thursday, January 25, 2024, from 6:30 PM to 8 PM at the Lawrence Barn. These are free events and all are encouraged to attend. For questions or concerns, please contact Chief Joseph Hoebeke at (603) 465-7637.