



## For Immediate Release

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### East Hartford Police Youth Basketball Program

(June 15, 2018) **East Hartford, CT** –The East Hartford Police Department is thrilled to announce that its basketball program is coming back for yet another successful year. The program began last year as a result of a collaborative approach of local police officers to create a positive community outreach project. The basketball program showed a significant demand in town, calling for another season. The program is free and it is designed for boys and girls who have completed grades 5-8.

“The heart and soul of this program is interaction,” said Lt. Joshua Litwin. “Thanks to the program, the youths are able to communicate with our officers in a non-emergency setting and establish a positive relationship with us.”

For the second year in a row, the basketball program helps build strong and positive relationships between the East Hartford youth, local police officers and the community through the wonderful and fun engagement. Additionally, the program provides a structured environment for students grades 5-8 to learn, develop and master their basketball skills. As part of the program, the East Hartford police officers focus on both individual and team fundamental skills, while highlighting the importance of teamwork, respect, attention to detail, communication skills and knowledge of the game. The ultimate goal, though, is to have fun and ensure a beneficial and productive learning environment for local children.

There is no limit on the number of young residents that can participate in the program and the East Hartford police officers encourage all eligible youths to register.

**To register online visit the East Hartford Parks and Recreation registration [website](#).**

#### Program Schedule:

- Thursday, June 21; 9:30-11 a.m; Martin Park, Burnside Ave.
- Thursday, June 28; 9:30-11 a.m; Hockanum Courts, Main St.
- Thursday, July 5; 9:30-11 a.m; Martin Park, Burnside Ave.
- Thursday, July 12; 9:30-11 a.m; Hockanum Courts, Main St.
- Thursday, July 19; 9:30-11 a.m; Martin Park, Burnside Ave.
- Thursday, July 26; 9:30-11 a.m; Hockanum Courts, Main St.