



For Immediate Release

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Organization Formed To Educate People On How Best Respond To Active Shooter Situations

5K Run and Walk To Be Held on August 30th in Columbia

Columbia, Md. – The National Center for Citizen Safety (NCCSAFE), a newly formed 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that aims to raise awareness on how to respond to domestic terrorism and active shooters, today announced that it will be holding its inaugural Survivor Strong 5K Run and Walk in Columbia, Md. The event will take place on Sunday, August 30, 2015 and all proceeds will go to further the mission of NCCSAFE by providing survivors with counseling resources, including adult retreats and child camps.

The event will feature Michele Gay as the keynote speaker. Michele founded Safe and Sound, a non-profit devoted to improving school safety, in response to the tragedy at Sandy Hook Elementary in 2012. Other speakers include Hector Hernandez, who was a responder to the Oklahoma City bombing, and Erika Brannock, a survivor of the Boston Marathon bombing.

“We formed the NCCSAFE to raise awareness for what has become a growing problem in our nation and better equip people with the knowledge that could help them survive,” says founder Lois Blevins. “We saw this right here in our backyard at the Columbia Mall and so many other places across the nation. Our hope is to bring together many survivors, and family members and friends of the fallen to keep the healing moving and the memories alive.”

Former Howard County Police Chief William McMahon, best known for his handling of the Columbia Mall shooting in 2014, says he is “pleased with the work the NCCSAFE is doing in regards to public safety and awareness.”

All participants who register by August 23rd, 2015 will receive a free Survivor Strong shirt by race sponsor Lacoste.

The 5K event will be managed and timed by Racemine. Opening ceremonies will begin at 7:45 a.m. and the 5K will begin at 8:00 a.m. in the parking lot of 6940 Columbia Gateway Drive. Registration is now open and those who register before August 15 will receive a race shirt and pay an entry fee of \$30. Students receive a discounted entry fee of \$15. The cost will be \$35 after August 15 and shirts cannot be guaranteed. For more information and to register, please visit www.survivorrunc5k.com.

About the National Center for Citizen Safety:

The National Center for Citizen Safety (NCCSAFE) was formed on March 7, 2014 with the goal of creating a safer community for all Americans. As an incorporated non-profit organization, our objective is to promote public awareness with respect to safety protocols and necessary citizen response during active shooter situations, as well as other acts of domestic terrorism. Currently, our nation has no centralized entity or organization to offer public awareness information, survivor resources, and other programs essential for improving the response to acts of domestic terrorism. In the wake of the tragedy in

Charlestown, SC and the numerous others that precede it, we are looking for support to validate our efforts to educate the public and help implement our programs on the state and national level.

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