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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Prior Lake Police Urge Participation in “Night To Unite” on Tuesday, Aug. 3**

The City of Prior Lake Police Department and the Minnesota Crime and Prevention Association urge the community of Prior Lake to be vigilant in the fight to prevent crime and keep Prior Lake a safe and peaceful environment in which to live.

That is why on Tuesday, Aug. 3 the Prior Lake Police Department and Fire Department will participate in Night to Unite, a Minnesota-wide event that brings together local law enforcement and community members in order to celebrate and strengthen neighborhood and community partnerships, raise awareness about drug and crime prevention, create support and gain participation in local anti-crime programs.

Many neighborhoods in Prior Lake will throw pot-luck parties or ice-cream socials. Police officers and firefighters from Prior Lake will visit the parties to mingle with community members and let children look through police squads and fire trucks.

Prior Lake police officers and firefighters will attend neighborhood parties on Aug. 3 from 6 to 9 p.m. To have police officers or firefighters attend your block party, call Prior Lake Police Officer Maureen O’Hehir at (952) 447-9874 by Saturday, July 31. Be sure to leave contact information and an explanation of where and when the party will be.

Although Night to Unite is a new event, it has the same goals as National Night Out. In its first year alone, Night to Unite saw participation from over 70 agencies, including city and county police departments, sheriff’s offices, and local governments around Minnesota.

For more information about Night to Unite, visit the Minnesota Crime and Prevention Association’s website at [www.mncpa.net](http://www.mncpa.net) or call (763) 593-8058. For more information in Prior Lake, visit [www.cityofpriorlake.com](http://www.cityofpriorlake.com) under “Police.”

*Prior Lake is a developing suburb in Scott County, Minnesota with a small-town atmosphere. The city features many amenities including numerous parks and lakes that offer year-round recreation. Prior Lake's population is about 21,750.*