

**PHILADELPHIA POLICE FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES INAUGURAL,  
FIVE-MILE “MARKET STREET RUN FOR BLUE” AND A POLICE/COMMUNITY FAMILY FESTIVAL  
PRESENTED BY WAWA, ON SUNDAY, OCT 27**

The Philadelphia Police Foundation announced today that it will host the inaugural Market Street Run for Blue, presented by Wawa, that will take runners and walkers on a five-mile loop course along Market Street from 2<sup>nd</sup> St. to 30<sup>th</sup> Street Station and back again on Sunday, Oct. 27 at 8 a.m. In addition, Wawa is also supporting a Police and Community Family Festival in conjunction with the Market Street Run at the Great Plaza at Penn's Landing from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Eric Cushing, Executive Director of the nonprofit Philadelphia Police Foundation, said proceeds from the unique new run will be used to support the Foundation's mission of funding equipment, training, programs and technological needs of the Philadelphia Police Department not included in the city's current budget. Registration and information to participate in the walk or run phases of the Run for Blue are available now at [www.marketstreetrun.org](http://www.marketstreetrun.org).

“Not only will the Run for Blue be a fun, yet challenging event for all ages, but every participant will be helping the Philadelphia Police Department to continue to keep our city's residents, workers and visitors safe and secure 24/7 throughout the year,” Cushing said. “The Philadelphia Police Foundation is proud to be coordinating the Market Street Run for Blue as part of our mission to support the dedicated efforts of the more than 6,000 men and women who wear the badge of the Philadelphia Police Department.”

With a start time of 8 a.m., the five-mile course takes runners and walkers from the Delaware River to the Schuylkill River along Market Street. Participants will be passing through Old City and Independence National Park, around City Hall, and past the business-towers canyon of west Market Street to the Schuylkill River and 30<sup>th</sup> Street Station. A return to the start/finish line at 2<sup>nd</sup> and Market Sts. will conclude the run.

“Wawa is very excited to be the presenting sponsor for Philadelphia's newest running event,” said David Simonetti, Senior Director of Store Operations for Wawa. “Our team members and customers rely on the great work of the Philadelphia Police Department to keep our communities safe. This is Wawa's way of saluting all of the men and women who wear the blue of law enforcement and thanking them for what they do every day.”

Members of the Philadelphia Police Department and other state and federal law enforcement agencies will join the hundreds of runners and walkers expected for the inaugural event. A special post-race Police and Community Festival will be held from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Great Plaza at Penn's Landing on Columbus Blvd. and will feature exhibitions and demonstrations of special police units, including SWAT, Mounted, K-9, Highway Patrol, Counter Terrorism, and Marine Unit, plus food and refreshments provided by the Wawa Community Care Truck, music and lots of fun for everyone. “It will be a special opportunity for adults and kids to interact with the great men and women of the Philadelphia Police Department,” Simonetti said.

Police Commissioner Richard Ross will be the official starter for the race. A brief program and a moment of silence to remember fallen police officers will precede the run at 7:45 a.m.

**About the Philadelphia Police Foundation:** The Philadelphia Police Foundation ([www.phillypolicefoundation.org](http://www.phillypolicefoundation.org)) was established in 1998 by civic and corporate leaders in the Philadelphia region as “A Force Behind the Shield.” In the past two years, the PPF has raised or distributed over \$1 million for equipment, programs, technological advances and training not included in the city’s budget, but of immediate importance to the Police Department.

**About Wawa, Inc.**

Wawa, Inc., a privately held company, began in 1803 as an iron foundry in New Jersey. Toward the end of the 19th Century, owner George Wood took an interest in dairy farming and the family began a small processing plant in Wawa, PA in 1902. The milk business was a huge success, due to its quality, cleanliness and “certified” process. As home delivery of milk declined in the early 1960s, Grahame Wood, George’s grandson, opened the first Wawa Food Market in 1964 as an outlet for dairy products. Today, Wawa is your all day, every day stop for freshly prepared foods, beverages, coffee, fuel services and surcharge-free ATMs. A chain of more than 840 convenience retail stores (over 600 offering fuel), Wawa stores are located in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, Florida and Washington, D.C. The stores offer a large fresh foodservice selection, including Wawa brands such as custom prepared hoagies, freshly-brewed coffee, hot breakfast sandwiches, specialty beverages and an assortment of soups, sides and snacks. In 2018, Wawa was recognized in Forbes as one of The Best Employers for New Grads and one of The Best Employers for Women, and as the Top Rated Workplace for Veterans by Indeed. In 2019, Wawa was designated by Forbes as a Best Employer for Diversity.

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