

Clinton County Sheriff's Office

News Release

TO: AREA NEWS

SUBJECT OF RELEASE: Clinton County Sheriff's Office Promotes Autism Awareness and Acceptance

Sheriff David Favro announced that the Clinton County Sheriff's Office will be participating in the New Rochelle Police Autism Patch Challenge for the month of April to help promote Autism Awareness and Acceptance.

The New Rochelle Police Autism Patch Challenge was started by the New Rochelle Police Department and the New Rochelle PBA on February 9th, 2017. It was created by New Rochelle Police Detective and PBA President Christopher Greco, who is the father of an autistic child. Detective Greco also founded Christopher's Voice – a charitable foundation for autistic children.

The primary goals of the Autism Patch Challenge are to promote Autism Awareness and Acceptance in every community throughout the country by creating and attaching a custom Autism Awareness Police Patch to at least one police car within each community's police department during the month of April. As an alternative, creating an Autism Shoulder Patch is great too! All participating agencies are encouraged to review their training protocols when dealing with autistic individuals and to implement new or improved training for all officers. It is recommended that any fundraising done be donated to LOCAL autism organizations, programs and charities.

During the month of April, Clinton County Sheriff's marked patrol vehicles will be displaying a specially designed Autism Awareness Patch decal. Specially designed Autism Awareness Patches will also be available for purchase, with all proceeds from this fundraiser going to the Autism Alliance of Northeastern NY in Plattsburgh NY. The Autism Alliance of Northeastern NY serves Clinton, Essex and Franklin Counties and their mission is to empower individuals and their families touched by Autism Spectrum Disorder through support and education. The Autism Alliance of Northeastern NY has provided grants to individuals, schools and local organizations to purchase electronic communication devices, sensory equipment and educational materials in addition to providing services and organizing community events to promote Autism Awareness and Acceptance.

The Clinton County Sheriff's Office would also like to extend a special thank you to the Boire Benner Group, located in Plattsburgh, NY, for their assistance with designing these Autism Awareness Patches and decals.

The Autism Awareness patches are \$10.00 each and can be ordered via email at CCSOAutismPatch@gmail.com or contact Sgt. Andrew Bertrand at (518) 565-4223 for local pickup.

