



2014-04

**NATIONAL SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION SUPPORTS THE
DRUG ABUSE RESISTANCE EDUCATION (D.A.R.E.) PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, the National Sheriffs' Association recognizes the nationwide seriousness of drug abuse and violence by our nation's youth, and the urgent need to use and expand school-based prevention education programs throughout the nation, and;

WHEREAS, the day-to-day struggle against alcohol abuse, tobacco, drugs and violence requires a long-term national, state, and local effort and commitment, and;

WHEREAS, since 1983, the Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.) Program has taught millions of young people how to recognize and resist the pressure to be involved in drugs, gangs and violent activities, and;

WHEREAS, the D.A.R.E. Program underscores a nationwide commitment and dedication to help our nation's youth to "just say no" to drugs and to violence, and;

WHEREAS, by promoting positive youth development, D.A.R.E. Programs across our nation are helping children and young people make the right choices and build lives of purpose, and;

WHEREAS, the D.A.R.E. Program allows law enforcement personnel to enter our nation's classrooms to answer difficult questions about drugs, violence and crime, and teaches students how to avoid temptation, and encourages open communication between young people and local law enforcement officers, and;

WHEREAS, the D.A.R.E. Program strengthens the safety of our local communities and provides our children and young people with a strong foundation and model for success, and;

WHEREAS, D.A.R.E. instructors, along with parents, teachers, health care professionals and all other interested parties who help our nation's youth grow into responsible, successful adults, are strengthening our country and contributing to a future of hope for everyone;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the National Sheriffs' Association acknowledges and actively supports the effort of D.A.R.E. Programs to significantly reduce/eliminate the use of alcohol, tobacco, illegal drugs and violent behavior by our nation's youth, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the National Sheriffs' Association strongly urges Sheriff's Offices across our nation to utilize D.A.R.E. Programs in their local communities.