

# Special Olympics Kansas

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## NEWS RELEASE

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## Prairie Village Cpl. Adam Taylor Receives Richard LaMunyon Award Recognized for Outstanding Service

Mission, KS.—Prairie Village police officer, Cpl. Adam Taylor, was recognized by the Kansas Law Enforcement Run (LETR) with the Richard LaMunyon Hall of Fame Award, June 3, at the Opening Ceremony of the Special Olympics Kansas (SOKS) Summer Games in Wichita. The LaMunyon Hall of Fame is named after LETR founder and former Wichita Police Chief Richard LaMunyon. Only one candidate is inducted annually. The award recognizes outstanding individuals who have significantly contributed to the statewide success of the Law Enforcement Torch Run benefiting SOKS athletes.

Taylor has been involved with LETR for 17 years. He currently serves as the LETR Metro Regional coordinator, a role in which he helps coordinate the Kansas City metro area's annual Torch Run. He also helps organize the Kansas City Polar Plunge event, the local annual dodgeball and golf tournaments and a yearly Christmas party for SOKS athletes. Even when he is not directly coordinating the events, he can often be found in attendance, participating and handing out medals and awards to athletes.

Taylor has served on the Kansas LETR Executive Council for the past three years. He has attended and presented at international conferences. He has also fostered a relationship between the Kansas and Maryland LETR programs.

"Adam exemplifies the mission of the Torch Run," Capt. Jeff Bragg of the Olathe Police Department said. "He attends the events, engages with the athletes and motivates others to follow...Adam does it all. You won't find a more dedicated person who is always trying to find new and innovative ways to improve the quality of life for people with intellectual difficulties."

Former Prairie Village Police Chief Wes Jordan echoed these sentiments, stating, "Throughout his years of involvement with Special Olympics, Adam has raised awareness and guided the employees of the Prairie Village Police Department to become more involved in this worthwhile cause. Adam has led by example by actively rallying our officers and staff to volunteer their time, and by participating in various fundraisers throughout the year."

"I am honored to receive the Richard LaMunyon Award. The award represents the wonderful opportunities we have as volunteers for building a great partnership with Law Enforcement and Special Olympics. Special Olympics athletes challenge us every day to work hard and appreciate everything life gives us. This award would not be possible without the support from my family and the Prairie Village PD", said Taylor.

The Law Enforcement Torch Run began in Wichita, Kansas in 1981 with six runners and has grown to an international program that involves thousands of Law Enforcement personnel raising millions of dollars annually to benefit Special Olympics programs in the United States and abroad. The Torch Run is the largest grassroots fundraiser and public awareness vehicle for Special Olympics. For more information about LETR and Special Olympics Kansas, visit [www.kssso.org](http://www.kssso.org). ###