

AUGUST 2021



Raleigh Police Department Community Newsletter

This newsletter is produced by the Public Affairs Unit of the Raleigh Police Department. It provides Raleigh citizens with crime prevention tips, seasonal information, and upcoming RPD community activities.

North Carolina's geographic location along the Atlantic coast makes us susceptible to hurricanes and tropical storms. Hurricane season runs June 1 through November 30, and our state may also experience other forms of severe weather, including thunderstorms, tornadoes and flooding, throughout the year.

This edition of the RPD Community Newsletter features tips to keep you and your loved ones safe when experiencing extreme weather, some information about our new police chief as well as some photos from our National Night Out event. Please share this information with family, friends, and neighbors.

HOW TO STAY SAFE IN SEVERE WEATHER

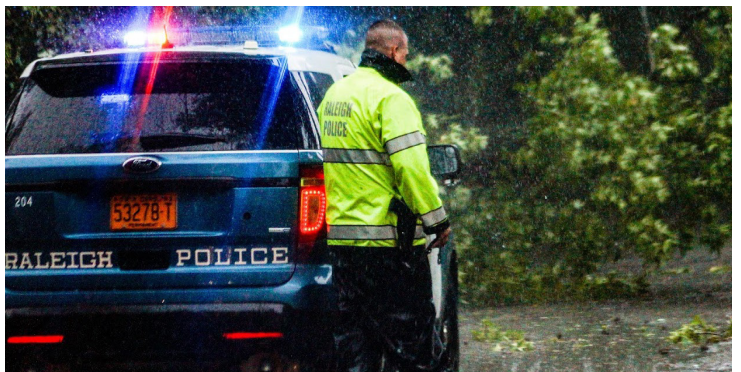
Hundreds of people die or are injured each year due to hurricanes, lightning, flash floods, powerful thunderstorm winds, and winter storms. Severe weather can strike quickly and leave behind a trail of destruction. However, it's possible to stay safe and control damage by following a few simple steps:

BEFORE THE STORM

- Develop a disaster plan for you and your family.
- Monitor official weather forecasts and other important information for your area.
- Keep at least one traditional analog phone in your home that does not require electricity to operate.

DURING THE STORM

- Listen to local authorities on radio and television. Evacuation routes often close as a storm develops so be sure you know where to go if you need to get out of your residence.
- Do not use electrical appliances including your computer unless absolutely necessary.
- If you lose power, turn off major appliances such as the HVAC and water heater to reduce damage.



AFTER THE STORM

- Do not touch fallen or low-hanging wires of any kind under any circumstances. Stay away from puddles with wires in or near them. Do not touch trees or other objects in contact with power lines.
- Call to report hazards such as downed power lines, broken gas or water mains, overturned gas tanks or any other dangerous situation that you may come across.
- Be cautious of door-to-door scams. After a storm, there are people that come around and take advantage of you when you are vulnerable. Take the time to investigate the company and don't give anyone access to your home until you've done your homework.

Please call 911 if you have experienced a crime or if you want to report any suspicious activity.

RALEIGH SWEARS IN NEW POLICE CHIEF



Estella D. Patterson took the official oath of office as Raleigh's 30th police chief on August 12. During the ceremony, she spoke about the unique and challenging time in the world of policing.

"I believe now is an excellent time for us to stand together to make Raleigh the national example in bridging the trust gap between police and community; in making Raleigh the best practices model in effectively addressing and reducing violent crime."

She also spoke about where she came from and how that has shaped her story.

"My entire life has been a journey into places and spaces of immense diversity of people, languages and cultures and mindsets, which has given me an appreciation for differences and bridging differences for the greater good. I am committed to ensuring that RPD continues to be a strong player in mending the divide between police and community...to the extent of being the model for our profession."

Chief Patterson talked about her goals of leading the Department into its next chapter. "As your Chief, I also commit to serve this post and lead the men and women of RPD with the highest level of integrity, professionalism, excellence, transparency, and compassion."

Chief Patterson comes to Raleigh after serving with the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department for over 25 years, climbing the ranks from officer to deputy chief.

The ceremony was streamed virtually and a replay of the ceremony can be viewed [here](#). Chief Patterson also spoke about her thoughts and plans for the future when she met with local media. Click to see each of the interviews:

[ABC 11](#) | [CBS 17](#) | [News & Observer](#) | [WRAL](#).

REMEMBERING FALLEN RPD OFFICER DENISE HOLDEN

End of Watch: August 4, 1995

Officer Holden was killed in an accident while responding to an officer needs assistance call. Her vehicle left the roadway at the intersection of Hillsborough Street and Morgan Street and struck a telephone pole. She succumbed to her injuries at the scene of the accident while rescue crews attempted to extricate her.

Officer Holden had been with the agency for seven months and is survived by her parents and sister.



View Fallen Detective Denise Holden's video [here](#).

THANKS FOR COMING TO NATIONAL NIGHT OUT!

Every year, National Night Out gives us the opportunity to build better relationships with the Raleigh community. A big



thank you to all of the community members that dodged the rain drops to come out and support our National Night Out event on Tuesday, August 3.



Despite the weather, it was a fun night for all involved and a pleasure spending the evening with people from the commu-

nities that held their events.

To see more photos from the evening, visit our [Twitter page](#) and follow us to see our officers out in the community!