



## The 11th Annual Special Olympics PA Be a Fan Torch Run to Kick-Off the 2021 Virtual Summer Games

*From June 7 – 9, the Torch will Travel from Pittsburgh to State College*

**WHAT:** 11th Annual Special Olympics Pennsylvania Torch Run from Pittsburgh to State College – a 3-day 150 mile run with 53 segments ranging from a 2.5 to 4 miles

**WHO:** Over 500 runners representing more than 50 law enforcement teams will participate in the Run and be either accompanied or cheered on by local Special Olympics program athletes.\*

*\*Participating law enforcement entities include: Pittsburgh Bureau of Police / Pittsburgh Bureau of Police SWAT / Allegheny County Sheriff's Office / Allegheny County Police / Port Authority PD / Mt. Lebanon PD / Clairton PD / Penn Hills PD / Monroeville PD / Findlay Township PD / University of Pittsburgh Police / Carnegie Mellon University Police / ATF Pittsburgh / FBI Pittsburgh / United States Secret Service Pittsburgh / Pennsylvania State Police Troop A & B*

**WHEN:** Monday, June 7th to Wednesday June 9th  
**June 7th** – Kick-off at PNC Park at 9:00 a.m.  
**June 9th** – End at State College

**WHERE:** Running segments breakdown attached

**\*\*\*Media are welcomed to attend any of the torch run stops or can request to ride along with the runners by contacting either of the media contacts for further information.\*\*\***

**(Norristown, PA)** – The [Be a Fan Torch Run](#) for Special Olympics Pennsylvania (SOPA) is a 150-mile non-competitive run with 53 segments ranging from a 2.5 to 4 miles, taking place from June 7 - 9, 2021. The Run features over 500 participants representing more than 50 law enforcement teams that are accompanied or cheered on by local Special Olympics athletes. The Torch Run partners are thrilled to be back in-person and running the Flame of Hope for this year's Virtual Summer Games and the 40th anniversary of the Law Enforcement Torch Run.

Members of law enforcement from across Western and Central, PA, will lead and take part in this unique and inspiring journey. The Run will officially kick-off on Monday, June 7th from home plate at PNC Park at 9:00 a.m. as law enforcement representatives from around the region begin the long and inspiring journey with the lighting of the torch. It will then end with the lighting of the Flame of Hope during Opening Ceremonies at Penn State University for SOPA's Virtual Summer Games.

The course has been divided into 53 segments or "legs" ranging in length from approximately 2 to 4 miles. Law enforcement agencies have chosen a segment, and through their designated

run coordinator, will run the torch for that leg. To date, nearly \$2,500,000 has been raised from Law Enforcement events in support of 16,000 Pennsylvania athletes.

The Be a Fan Torch Run also serves as a run in memory of fallen officers from across the state. Energy Transfer is proud to serve as SOPA's premier "Guardians of the Flame" Law Enforcement Torch Run partner.

**About Special Olympics Pennsylvania**

Special Olympics Pennsylvania provides year-round training and competition in 21 Olympic-type sports to approximately 16,000 children and adults with intellectual disabilities or closely related developmental disabilities. For more information about how you can join "The Inclusion Revolution," visit [www.specialolympicspa.org](http://www.specialolympicspa.org).