



MEDIA RELEASE

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BURLINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT TO “TWEET THE BEAT” DURING OCTOBER 2ND GLOBAL POLICE TWEET-A-THON

BURLINGTON, NC— On October 2nd, the Burlington Police Department invites the community to follow along as Officer Karla Topete tweets her beat! The Burlington Police Department will be participating in a global police tweet-a-thon* being organized by LAwS Communications, a law enforcement centered interactive media consultancy. The global tweet-a-thon will be using the hashtag, #PolTwt.

As part of the tweet-a-thon, Officer Topete will tweet via the Burlington Police Department’s Twitter account [@BurlingtonNC_PD](https://twitter.com/BurlingtonNC_PD) as she goes about her patrol from 7:00am – 6:30pm on October 2nd. Officer Topete will share aspects of her day with the hashtag #BPDBeatTweet. Search this hashtag to follow along and see what a patrol officer in the Burlington Police Department experiences during any given day.

“We are excited to participate in the tweet-a-thon this Friday,” says Sergeant Stacey Thompson. “This provides the Department an opportunity to give our residents a glimpse of what officers do during their shifts. We don’t know what will happen during Officer Topete’s shift this Friday, but we are excited to engage the public as she tweets her beat.”

Officer Karla Topete has worked with the Burlington Police Department since 2013. She is a graduate of Pfeiffer University from which she holds a degree in Criminal Justice. She serves as the Department’s Spanish-speaking Public Information Officer and played an integral role in starting the first Spanish-speaking community watch group in Burlington, located at the Nike Street trailer park. Officer Topete is also a mentor to many of Burlington’s young female Police Explorers.

“If you follow along with me on Friday with the hashtag #BPDBeatTweet, you can expect to get an inside view of what happens during a shift on patrol with the BPD,” says Officer Topete, adding that “you can also expect a selfie or two!”

Residents can experience a shift with a Burlington Police Officer at any time by signing up to take a Ride-Along. Visit <http://www.burlingtonnc.gov/index.aspx?nid=1482> for more information about how to join an officer during their shift.

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Editor's Note:

Attached is a photo of Officer Karla Topete

*According to the MacMillan Dictionary, a **tweet-a-ton** is defined as “an extended event or campaign organized on the microblogging site, Twitter.”

Our Mission:

“The City of Burlington is dedicated to providing high quality municipal services within our diverse community in a friendly, professional and efficient manner in order to promote the safety, health, and quality of life of residents and employees.”

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