



NEW YORK STATE SHERIFFS' INSTITUTE, INC.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ALBANY, N.Y

SHERIFF PAT RUSSO ANNOUNCES MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

The New York State Sheriffs' Institute will begin its annual Honorary Membership drive in Rensselaer County within the next ten days according to Sheriff Pat Russo.

The New York State Sheriffs' Institute was established in 1979. It is a not-for-profit corporation, tax exempt organization, and contributions to the Institute are tax deductible.

While the Sheriff's Office is a unit of county government, many of the concerns of Sheriffs and other law enforcement agencies are best addressed on a statewide level. The Sheriffs' Institute provides centralized training programs and services for all Sheriffs' Offices, where those programs and services would be unavailable or impractical on a single county basis.

The flagship program of the Sheriffs' Institute is the **Sheriffs' Summer Camp** for economically challenged children. The Sheriffs' Camp, in its 45th year of operation, is located on Keuka Lake and 840 children from across New York State attend each summer. The Sheriffs' Institute pays the entire cost of the camp stay and transportation. Most children attending wouldn't otherwise have an opportunity for vacation travel or a summer camp experience.

The Sheriffs' Camp program combines summer recreation with activities designed to teach an understanding of, and respect for, our laws and the men and women who enforce them. The strong camper to counselor ratio allows for individual attention with an emphasis on the development of self esteem.

"In these difficult economic times we cannot forget our youth who will not have the opportunity for a summer camp experience or a summer vacation," Sheriff Pat Russo said. "By becoming an honorary member you are supporting the Sheriffs' Summer Camp for economically disadvantaged children."

In addition, the Sheriffs' Institute operates a scholarship program that provides one scholarship to each of New York State's Community College's Criminal Justice Programs. This program is designed to help attract the best and the brightest to the criminal justice vocation.

For more information about the Sheriffs' Summer Camp and other Sheriffs' Institute Programs, visit our website, www.sheriffsinstitute.org or simply *google* "Sheriffs' Institute kids" and it will be your first option.

Financial support for many of the Sheriffs' Institute programs comes from Honorary Membership dues. Invitations for Honorary Membership are extended on a non-partisan basis, and the invitees are selected at random. Any persons interested in supporting the efforts of the New York State Sheriffs' Institute by becoming an Honorary Member should contact the Sheriff if they do not receive an invitation in the mail, or visit our web site at: www.sheriffsinstitute.org to download an application.

All donations made to the New York State Sheriffs' Institute are tax deductible. In addition, Sheriffs' Institute is registered with the New York State Attorney General's Charities Bureau.