

PRESS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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RETIRED SHERIFF'S MAJOR HONORED AS COMMUNITY "SHINING STAR"

The Sarasota Coalition on Substance Abuse (SCoSA) will honor recently retired Sheriff's Office Major Timothy Carney with its prestigious "Shining STAR" award at their 4th Annual "Sarasota Shining Stars" Award & Recognition Luncheon. Major Carney will be present at the event scheduled for Thursday, March 12th, 2009 (12pm) at the Meadows Country Club, in Sarasota.

Major Carney was selected by the Award Committee as a distinguished leader for his role in preventing substance abuse among our county's youth for over 27 years. "Tim Carney exemplifies the term commitment, when it comes to dedicated service to this community", states Curt Lavarello, Executive Director for the coalition. "Major Carney was one of our county's earliest School Resource Officers and has been recognized statewide and nationally for his role in saving young lives" continued Lavarello.

Major Carney has over 31 years in Law Enforcement, beginning his career in the Denver Colorado area before joining the Sheriff's office over 27 years ago. Recently Major Carney traveled to Israel to study homeland security as part of a special initiative to provide oversight in protecting local infrastructure. Major Carney has trained school resource officers from across the nation, Canada, Australia and Great Britain. Locally, Major Carney took part in a number of organizations including the Safe Place & Rape Crisis Center (SPARCC) Board of Directors.

"Tim Carney has touched so many lives in our schools and community he certainly is most deserving of this award and our gratitude", states Sherri Reynolds, who is the chairperson for Sarasota Coalition on Substance Abuse, and oversees Sarasota County School Board's Safe & Drug Free Schools program.

Additionally, the 2009 "Shining Stars" Keynote Speaker will be Mr. William Modzeleski, Associate Deputy Undersecretary for the United States Department of Education, Washington, D.C.

Additional Info:

Call the Sarasota Coalition on Substance Abuse at 941-377-7736.
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