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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **NATIONAL NIGHT OUT – Auburn’s Night Out Against Crime** “Community Block Party” Strengthens Police/Community Partnership

On August 7<sup>th</sup>, Festival Plaza on Main Street will be the scene for the Auburn Police Department’s Annual **National Night Out** against crime. This year’s event – which begins at 5:30pm and goes until dusk - will draw hundreds of Auburn residents to Main Street for food, fun, music and some ‘quality time’ with the Auburn PD.

NNO is America’s annual *Night Out Against Crime*. It is a unique crime/drug prevention event sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch. While Auburn residents spend Tuesday evening celebrating in Festival Plaza, people in communities across America will be doing the exact same thing. More than 15,000 communities from all 50 states, and from Canadian cities and military bases worldwide – more than **37 million** people in all -- participate each year.

This is the 10<sup>th</sup> year that the Auburn PD has participated in National Night Out (NNO). This is **not** a fund-raising event – it is an anti-crime, **completely free** public safety event, designed to serve the children and families of Auburn, and the APD is planning on more attendees this year than ever before.

The APD knows how to throw a community block party and this year’s NNO will be no exception. Department staff and volunteers will serve up hotdogs, popcorn, lemonade and plenty of family style fun. There will be APD K-9, bicycle and motorcycle team demonstrations; as well as exciting demonstrations by the Auburn Fire Department. Other highlights will include: face painting; hula-hoop & jump-rope contests; a bounce house; and an inflatable obstacle course and laser tag arena. Volunteers will provide child ID kits, DNA swabs, balloons and lots of “give-aways.” Live music by the band “**Five Face North**” will create the ultimate fun & festive atmosphere.

“The Auburn PD is always so proud to bring this event to our community,” said Police Chief Phil Crowell. “Every day, our officers work to ensure the safety of the people who live, work and play here. But it takes the entire community to push back the darkness of crime. NNO is a great way to fight crime, build on our police/community partnerships and to have some fun with our neighbors. This is community policing at its best.”

As always, this year’s NNO will serve to heighten crime and drug prevention awareness; generate support for (and participation in) local anti-crime programs; strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships and send a message to criminals letting them know that Auburn neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

For more information on Auburn’s National Night Out 2011, please contact Liz Allen at the Auburn Police Department: 333-6650 X2070.

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