



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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Fall River Legislators to Host Fall River Public Safety Forum

A Major Forum designed to inform the citizens of Fall River of Commonwealth partnerships with local agencies and organizations to improve public safety

Fall River — On Wednesday, October 12, 2011 at 6:00PM at the Advanced Technology and Manufacturing Center, 151 Martine Street Fall River, State Senator Michael J. Rodrigues (**D-Westport**), State Representatives David Sullivan (**D-Fall River**), Kevin Aguiar (**D-Fall River**), and Paul Schmid (**D-Westport**), will be hosting the Fall River Public Safety Forum. The forum is being held to inform the public of state partnerships with local community organizations such as the Fall River Police Department, Community Development & Recreation, the Workforce Investment Board, the Fall River Youth Collaborative, the Boys and Girls Club and many others to increase public safety and awareness. Among the topic of discussion will be recent awards to the city, including the Municipal Police Staffing grant.

“The Fall River legislative delegation has worked tirelessly to promote these initiatives bringing sorely needed support to Fall River,” said Senator Rodrigues. “These state and city partnerships foster effective community relationships and promote an environment of collective responsibility for making Fall River a safer place to live, work and raise a family.”

Among the invited guests is Marilyn Chase, Assistant Secretary of Health and Human Services, whom will take a tour of the city’s neighborhood and organizations prior to the forum. “I’m looking forward to seeing first-hand how administration is helping to support positive growth in one of the Commonwealths largest cities,” she said. “I fully understand the significance and impact financial assistance can have in efforts to improve cities and towns; I commend Senator Rodrigues for providing me this exciting opportunity.”

Joining Chase, will be many other representatives from community partners within the city. In addition to discussions related to partnering with local law enforcement, the forum will highlight collaborations used to combat youth violence, engage community partners in providing risk identification, street outreach, trauma counseling, and access to skills, training and employment.

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“Making Fall River a safer place should be a city-wide effort,” said Representative Schmid. “The neighborhood associations and small facets of active community volunteers that work vigorously for our city should not shoulder the burden alone.”

“State grants have already been awarded, often times under very specific criteria,” said Representative Sullivan. “Through collaborative state efforts, targeted relief can provide academic support, encourage civic engagement and community service participation, and put more police officers on the street.” Representative Aguiar emphasizing Sullivan’s in a statement said, “City and state officials continue to communicate and collaborate for targeted support, this is crucial as the city and state economy continues to rebound from fiscally challenging times.”

*The forum will feature an open discussion and a question and answer period.
The forum is open to the public and no RSVP is required.*

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