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## NEWS RELEASE

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### **SHERIFF GOLDEN AND PARTNERS IN LAW ENFORCEMENT PARTICIPATE IN CONVERSATION WITH COMMUNITY LEADERS, CLERGY & YOUTHS**

**Red Bank:** Sheriff Shaun Golden along with partners in law enforcement spent the morning of Jan. 14 at the Pilgrim Baptist Church in Red Bank where they spoke with members of the clergy, community leaders, youth groups and high school students during the Community & Law Enforcement Conversation Seminar.

The event re-established 'Friendship Forces' in communities throughout Monmouth County where participants had the opportunity to meet members of law enforcement, discuss their concerns and ask questions. 'Friendship Force' fosters greater dialogue with law enforcement, the community and youths to enhance community wellness.

"It's of great importance for law enforcement to participate in this type of forum," said Sheriff Shaun Golden. "Communication with local leaders, members of the clergy and our youths build trust in the communities and the residents in which we serve. That's extremely valuable when promoting public safety."

During the event, guest speakers were featured along with group discussions and a video presentation. Pamphlets about the Monmouth County Special Needs Registry, Project Lifesaver along with information regarding victim witness and drug and alcohol abuse were also available.

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The seminar was sponsored by the Pilgrim Baptist Church, the Monmouth County Prosecutor's Office, the Monmouth County Sheriff's Office, the Monmouth County Police Chiefs Association, the Community YMCA, Monmouth Reform Temple, Citizens for a Diverse & Open Space Society & Concerned Citizens of Red Bank.

Thanks to Pastor Terrance Porter of the Pilgrim Baptist Church who organized the successful event in promoting community relations.

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