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**PRESS RELEASE**

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## **THE DETROIT CRIME COMMISSION PARTNERS WITH THE DETROIT PUBLIC SAFETY ACADEMY FOR SPEAKER SERIES**

For the second year in a row, the Detroit Crime Commission (DCC) has partnered with the Detroit Public Safety Academy (DPSA) for a yearlong speaker series. The series focuses on public safety and its many facets.

Once a month, a speaker from the public safety sector talks to students about their particular area of expertise. It is the DCC's goal to go beyond traditional public safety fields such as police, fire, and EMS, and look at homeland security, agriculture, Food & Drug Administration, public safety in the military and more.

*"As the only school in Michigan dedicated to public safety, it seemed like a natural fit",* says Ellis Stafford, the DCC's Operations Director and former command officer with the Michigan State Police.

*"We wanted our involvement to be more than a one-time visit, we wanted to put our arms around the school and share nearly 100 years of public safety experience."*

DPSA School Leader, Isaiah Pettway said, *"The DCC asked us about doing a speaker series last year, but this year, WE asked them. We (DPSA leadership) sincerely believe an educated choice is always a better choice, and the DCC is helping our kids make better choices regarding public safety."*

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This year's speaker series will begin with the Michigan State Police followed by the FBI next month, and then Michigan Department of Corrections. Stafford said one of his goals is to get someone from the military's investigative arm such as NCIS, OSI\*, or the US Army's CID\*\* to visit DPSA before the end of the school year.

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The DCC:

The mission of the Detroit Crime Commission is to lessen the burdens of government and the citizens of the southeast Michigan area by facilitating the prevention, investigation and prosecution of crime.

DPSA:

The Detroit Public Safety Academy, authorized by Eastern Michigan University, is the first (and only) school of its kind in Michigan. Along with excellent academics, students learn about careers in Law Enforcement, Fire, Emergency Medical Services and others.

\*US Air Force's Office of Special Investigation

\*\*US Army's Criminal Investigation Division