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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### Riverside Youth Council in Session, Objectives in Action

#### “Youth with integrity and purpose”

**Riverside, California-** Under the new leadership of the Riverside Police Department, the Riverside Youth Council (RYC) is back in session for the 2013-14 scholastic year. After reviewing applications from students throughout the City of Riverside and conducting interviews, a council was selected. The Council is comprised of 29 youth leaders.

The year started August 17-18 with a weekend retreat at Cedar Lake Leadership Camp, Big Bear. The RYC participated and supported each other in challenging obstacle-courses and activities. This allowed the new Council to build a strong foundation and establish new friendships with fellow members. The weekend had a positive turnout.

RYC Chair Margarita Oreta and Vice-Chair Preea Mazumder introduced four goals the Council will be undertaking in the upcoming year. RYC's goals are to expand the Council's civic engagement by interacting with the government at all levels and organizing a youth summit. RYC will commit to leadership opportunities by participating in city events and organizing their own projects. By interacting with social media and promoting RYC activities at the high school level, the council will accomplish their third goal which is to increase awareness of RYC. Their fourth goal is to promote participation in the Riverside Youth Court, which includes participating and recruiting for the program.

Additionally, RYC will be focused on identifying ways to address five issues the youth in Riverside face: drug and alcohol abuse, bullying, planning for the future, lack of motivation, and RYC awareness.

RYC's first call to action will be volunteering and participating in the Riverside Police Foundation Triathlon on October 20, 2013. Follow the Riverside Youth Council on Facebook and twitter for up-coming events and projects. For more information about the Riverside Youth Council please contact Officer Mark Reddick at [mreddick@riversideca.gov](mailto:mreddick@riversideca.gov).