



PUBLIC RELATIONS

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## **NEWS RELEASE**

### **For Immediate Release**

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### ***SUNO to host “Night Out” in Pontchartrain Park***

NEW ORLEANS, LA – The Southern University at New Orleans (SUNO) Police Department will host a National Night Out celebration and cook-out on Tuesday, August 5, 2008 from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in Pontchartrain Park at the corner of Press Drive and Prentiss Avenue. The event is co-sponsored by the Pontilly Neighborhood Association and the Pontchartrain Park Neighborhood Association, and it is free and open to the public. Residents of Gentilly Woods, Pontchartrain Park and surrounding communities are especially encouraged to attend.

“This is significant for SUNO and our neighbors,” says Captain Leatrice Warren, head of SUNO Police. “Lately we’ve increased our visibility in the area and neighbors have taken notice of that. With the comebacks in the Park (Pontchartrain) and Gentilly Woods I really wanted this Night Out to be special for all of us.”

Former Pontchartrain Park resident and actor Wendell Pierce also expresses a level of excitement about the event. “Pontchartrain Park is my home. It’s where my heart is and SUNO is a part of our comeback,” he says. The star of HBO’s *The Wire* and upcoming series *Tremé* will be in attendance for the event.

This is the first time SUNO will celebrate National Night Out off campus. Activities for the celebration include games, arts & crafts, health and crime prevention services. Citizens will enjoy food as well as games and arts & crafts for children. There will also be finger printing for children and safety information available. In addition residents will be able to take advantage of blood pressure screenings and diabetes risk assessments.

Others who have assisted the University in putting the event together are the Orleans Parish Criminal Sheriff Marlin Gusman, Pastor Melvin Jones, Jr. of Bethel Community Church, EXCELth, Inc. Family Health Center of New Orleans and Entergy, Inc.

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