

# OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF CHATHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA

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## PRESS RELEASE

**Chatham County Sheriff's Office**  
**Sheriff Al St Lawrence**  
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### **The Chatham County Sheriff's Office launches it's youth mentoring program at the second participating school**

The Chatham County Sheriff's Office will launch its youth mentoring program at Garden City Elementary School on November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2009. The "Lunch Buddy" Program provides a child with an on-going relationship with a caring adult. Thirty deputies and staff employees of the Sheriff's Office and Juvenile Court have volunteered to become mentors.

The program is simple, adult volunteers commit to having lunch with a student at least twice a month. After lunch there will be time to read a book, play a board game, or just talk. The one on one relationship between buddies often make a profound difference in a child's life. Similar programs throughout the nation have resulted in positive benefits for the students. The City of Charleston, S.C. has been sponsoring their "Lunch Buddy" program for ten years. They have been beneficial in the development of the program for the Chatham County Sheriff's Office.

The counselor have selected students from pre-K to 5<sup>th</sup> Grade The Kick Off will begin with a mentor orientation which starts at 10:00 a.m. The students will arrive at 10:30 to meet with their mentors.