

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

APRIL 23, 2018

**APRIL 21, 2018 DEMONSTRATION CONCLUSION
NEWNAN, GEORGIA**

The City of Newnan, in partnership with forty two public safety agencies and over seven hundred law enforcement officials, as well as twenty five fire and emergency services agencies, successfully managed a planned demonstration by the National Socialist Movement, held on Saturday, April 21, 2018.

The unwavering support of the citizens of the City of Newnan, Coweta County and the State of Georgia, in addition to a well-planned and orchestrated public safety plan enables us to collectively celebrate that no injuries or property damage was realized.

After being screened for prohibited items, roughly forty members of the National Socialist Movement entered Greenville Street Park. The demonstration began at 4:00pm (EST) and concluded at 5:00pm (EST).

The Newnan Police Department, in partnership with numerous local, state and federal agency partners, managed the closure of adjacent roadways, while concurrently maintaining designated gathering areas for use by the demonstrators and anti-demonstrators. Increased patrols occurred before, during and after the demonstration to provide for the protection of persons and property. The demonstration resulted in ten arrests. Public safety personnel confiscated numerous prohibited items from self-identified anti-demonstrators, such as masks, fireworks, smoke grenades, various types of insect spray, bottles inscribed with the terms "shake and law" and a shield with outfacing screws.

The City of Newnan is aware of recent activities in our country that include the actions of similar demonstrators and anti-demonstrators. The City of Newnan has a responsibility to protect free speech rights, the individuals and groups that chose to exercise those rights and the broader community in which those rights may be exercised.

The City of Newnan took very seriously multiple concerns regarding the safety of persons and property. In order to meet that obligation, the City of Newnan prepared a robust public safety plan. The City of Newnan is committed to ensuring public safety and utilized the resources needed to execute the public safety plan.

The City of Newnan would like to thank our public safety partners and caring citizens for entrusting in us the awesome responsibility of managing the April 21, 2018 demonstration.

City of Newnan
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