How can we have peace in Baltimore ?



LUNCHEON

Downtown Baltimore CBMC Presents

Lt. Colonel Melvin Russell

Chief ~ Community Collaboration Division Baltimore City Police



Lt. Colonel Russell will discuss how community policing has changed in Baltimore and share his personal faith journey.

Lt. Colonel Melvin T. Russell is Chief of the Community Collaboration Division, Baltimore Police Department. Russell joined The Baltimore Police Department (BPD) in 1979 as a police cadet and graduated from the BPD academy in 1981 as the first and still, only African American male class valedictorian. The class of 2001 produced the first female African American class valedictorian.

Russell worked both as a uniform patrol and then an undercover officer for 20 years before re-emerging as an Eastern District Lieutenant in 2007. In this position, Russell turned the worse midnight patrol shift in the city to the best in 3 months and was promoted to Major of the Eastern District 11 months later. It was during this time as Major that Russell created the non-profit "Transformation Team" (TTT), a grassroots organization of community shareholders that are committed to working together to make a better Baltimore.

In January 2013, Russell was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel and created the Community Collaboration Division, which brings stakeholders together to begin to work towards the common goal of peace and prosperity for Baltimore City.

"You can't change the whole world- but you can change the block you patrol, and a partner can change the block they work. And before you know it the city can change," said Lt. Colonel Russell. He was instrumental in calming the crowds during the 2015 riots in Baltimore, meeting with neighborhood groups, the Freddie Gray family, and even gang leaders.

Together Lt. Colonel Russell and his lovely wife Lolita are raising a blended family of eight children.





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Date & Time: Friday, March 18, 2016 Networking 11:30 AM Luncheon 12 Noon to 1:00 PM

Place: World Relief 7 East Baltimore Street Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Cost: \$10.00

Reservations: Call: Rob Bullock (443) 768-7257 or email: <u>RB@romihu.com</u> by Wednesday, March 16, 2016

world relief 📲

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