

City of Forest Hill Citizens Police Academy



“Excellence Through Cooperative Education”

This document provides a brief overview of the Forest Hill Police Department's Citizens Police Academy (CPA). The Citizens Police Academy is sponsored by the Forest Hill Citizen Police Academy Alumni Association and is a partnership between the Forest Hill Police Department and the citizens of Forest Hill.

What is a Citizens Police Academy?

A police department interactive program, designed to educate the public about its department policies, regulations, the criminal justice system, and ways to reduce crime.

The program allows members of the Forest Hill Police Department and citizens of the community to meet, share ideas and information, and interact in a very positive and proactive setting. It is further hoped that the instruction will increase police awareness whereas to dispel suspicions and misconceptions and to increase community rapport through this educative process.

Advantages of a Citizens Police Academy

- A support group for the police department
- Change perspectives
- Create better police/community relations
- Showcase our department and its employees
- Citizen awareness of the police department
- Police awareness of citizens' concerns and perceptions
- Positive and proactive contact

COME JOIN US FOR A FUN, ENJOYABLE PARTNERING EXPERIENCE

WHEN?

The course begins Tuesday, July 7th and continues every Tuesday for 13 weeks (September 29th); 6:00 p.m-10:00 p.m.

WHERE?

*Forest Hill Police Department
Located at 3336 Horton Rd., Forest Hill, TX 76119
(817)531-5250*

If you are interested in attending the Forest Hill Citizens Police Academy, you may obtain an application anytime prior to Tuesday, July 21st, 2009 from the Forest Hill Police Department or pick up a copy at City Hall.

Due to the course curriculum and content, all participants must pass a criminal history check.

The Citizens Police Academy Curriculum includes:

- Introduction to the Forest Hill Police Department
- Department Hiring, Education and Training Requirements
- Communications
- Mechanics of Arrest
- Traffic Stops
- Felony Traffic Stops
- Criminal Investigations
- Gangs
- Jail Procedures
- Family Violence
- Accident Investigations
- Crime Scene Investigations
- Narcotics Recognition
- Narcotics Interdiction
- Crime Prevention

GRADUATION

Upon successful completion of the Citizens Police Academy, graduates will be eligible to participate in programs such as the Forest Hill Ride-Along Program and the Citizen Police Academy Alumni Association.

Ride-Along Program

The Forest Hill Police Department's *Ride-Along Program* allows the participants to sit inside a police vehicle during an officer's regular patrol shift. The participants ride with the officer during the course of the shift where they act as an observer.

The officer's goal is to introduce the participant into the role of a Forest Hill Police Officer, to show a part of the community not normally seen by the average citizen, and to explain the apparent risks that come with the job.

The Forest Hill Police Department's goal is to introduce the participant to the officer's individual responsibility to the community, the department's responsibility to the community, and to create a partnership between the officers and the citizens of Forest Hill.

The Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association

The purpose of the Association is to provide an organization to assist in the growth and development of new or existing volunteer organizations and crime prevention initiatives within the City of Forest Hill. In addition, the CPAAA seeks direct communication, services and mutual aid among its members that will improve their ability to serve the needs of the Forest Hill Community and the Forest Hill Police Department.

Citizens Police Academy Rules

- 1.) *Unless otherwise noted by the staff, dress for participants during each class session will be casual.*
- 2.) *Audio or visual recordings of class lectures will not be permitted unless otherwise noted by the individual instructor or program staff.*
- 3.) *Food is not permitted in the training room unless allowed by the instructor or coordinator. However, drinks will be permitted in the training room.*
- 4.) *The use of tobacco products in the police station is prohibited. If you are a smoker and wish to get a quick smoke, the instructor/coordinator will show you where you can smoke during the break periods.*
- 5.) *Unless otherwise noted, all classes will be held at the Forest Hill Police Department and will begin promptly at 6pm, with introductions and announcements.*
All classes will begin at 10 minutes after the hour. Breaks will be from the top of the hour till 10 minutes after the hour, unless altered by the instructor or staff.
- 6.) *Citizens Police Academy study guides are issued to each class participant and are to be brought to each session, along with a pen.*
- 7.) *Portions of certain classes may be of confidential or sensitive nature. Participants are asked to treat the information accordingly.*