



PROVO CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT FALL 2011 CITIZEN'S ACADEMY September 21st – November 4th

The Provo City Police Department has embarked on the concept of educating citizens of the community on the daily activities of their police officers and the variety of functions they perform by conducting a Citizen's Academy.

Goals of the Academy

The Provo City Police Department Citizen's academy has a two-fold goal. The first goal is to foster a better relationship between the community and the police department through training. It is envisioned that graduates will gain an understanding of the operation of the Provo City Police Department and develop an awareness and appreciation of the various challenges and decisions faced daily by the Provo City police officers.

Secondly, it is hoped that the citizens who complete this academy will become the "eyes and ears" of the police department in our fight against crime. Through their academy training, citizens will learn to recognize criminal activity before it occurs, become more aware of activity around them, which will prevent them and others from becoming victims of criminal activity, and learn to gather the necessary information to relay to police in the event they should witness a crime. In other words, graduates will become partners with the police department in efforts to reduce crime in our community.

The selected citizens are given training in numerous police-related subjects; however, the graduates are not prepared for, nor expected to conduct any actual law enforcement duties. It is desired that the graduates will become goodwill ambassadors for the Provo City Police Department. Emphasis is placed on "hands-on" subject matter in order to keep classes interesting and students busy. Police subject matter presented includes, but is not limited to, the following topics and/or courses:

- **Police Department Orientation**
- **High/Low Risk Traffic Stops**
- **Crime Scene Investigation & Evidence Processing**
- **Use of Force, Firearms**
- **Tactical Response**
- **Controlled Substances**
- **Search and Seizure**
- **Laws of Arrest**
- **Patrol Functions**
- **Gangs**
- **Mountain Rescue, EOD (bomb) teams**
- **SWAT**



Class size

Enrollment in the academy is restricted to a maximum of 15 students per class in order for more class participation in "hands-on" training, and provide for greater interaction among officers and students.



Admission Requirements

Requirements for admission to the academy are set to maintain the quality of the program for the citizens of Provo City. Basic requirements include:

1. Minimum age of 21 years
2. A resident of Provo City, or
3. The owner of a business in Provo City, or
4. Involved within the Provo City Community in some way as youth group involvement, or a member of a church and/or other civic organization, etc.

Applications for the Citizen's Academy may be found at the Provo Police Department. Once the applications are received, the list will be narrowed to the maximum 15 students and selected applicants will be notified of their acceptance. Applicants who cannot be scheduled for this class will be placed on a waiting list and placed in the next class.

Scheduling

The seven sessions will be held on Wednesday nights from 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm, in the Provo Police Training Room. The only exception to this will be the eighth session, which will be the final graduation to be held on Friday November 4th.

Waivers and Confidentiality

Students will be required to sign a liability waiver that releases Provo City and its police department from liability during any classroom or practical demonstrations during the course, and or transportation to same. Due to the nature of police work with regard to criminal histories and other information they may see or hear while participating in the academy, students must not relay any confidential information to anyone outside the Provo City Police Department.

Conclusion

It is anticipated that the Citizen's Academy will ultimately assist in the reduction of the crime rate through deeper community support of the police department. This added support and confidence will result in a commitment by the community to report crime and suspicious activity, comply with security measures, and maintain involvement in neighborhood and mobile watch groups.

With each graduating class from the Citizen's Academy, the list of "goodwill ambassadors" will continue to grow. Such positive interaction between citizens and the police department can only enhance the safety and quality of life in Provo, Utah.

