

*Harrisonburg*  
VIRGINIA



POLICE DEPARTMENT  
101 North Main Street  
Harrisonburg, Virginia 22802  
Emergency 911  
Non-Emergency 540-434-4436  
Chief Stephen P. Monticelli

For Immediate Release  
01/08/2015

Contact: Harrisonburg Police Department  
Officer Chris Monahan  
540-437-2672  
[www.harrisonburgva.gov/police](http://www.harrisonburgva.gov/police)

### **CITIZEN POLICE ACADEMY**

Harrisonburg, VA – The Harrisonburg Police Department is hosting its 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Citizen Police Academy and opening its doors for community members to learn about the various jobs and duties of the Department. The academy is open to residents of the City of Harrisonburg and Rockingham County.

Not only do participants get more insight into HPD, they get hands-on experience in different scenarios that officers could potentially encounter. Participants will have an opportunity to learn about Criminal Investigations/Crime Scenes, Police K-9s, SWAT/Negotiations, Patrol Ride-Along, Drug and Gang Units, and even shoot weapons in a controlled environment. This is an excellent snapshot of how your police department functions and the different services it provides.

“The Citizen Police Academy represents the ‘community engagement and transparency’ mission of the Harrisonburg Police Department that Police Chief Stephen Monticelli set for our department,” said Officer Chris Monahan. “I strongly encourage the community to engage in this program to help us create a city where our actions, policies, and voices are united toward a goal of stronger relations and safer communities.”

The academy will be held every Thursday evening at the Public Safety Building, 101 N. Main Street, from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., and on one Saturday morning. Applications will be available online at [www.harrisonburgva.gov/police](http://www.harrisonburgva.gov/police) or at the Public Safety Building lobby beginning on January 15. Completed applications need to be returned by Monday, February 15. Selected participants will attend classes from March 5 through April 30, 2015.