



For Immediate Release
1/8/2018

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23rd Annual Community Police Academy

Harrisonburg, VA – The Harrisonburg Police Department is proud to continue its long standing program, the Citizen Police Academy but with a new name this year, the **Community Police Academy (CPA)**. The change is meant to reflect the relationship that the police department has with the entirety of Harrisonburg and surrounding areas and by opening its doors, those relationships only grow stronger.

The CPA will be held from March 6 to May 1, and classes are conducted by various members of the department each Tuesday night from 6:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. at the Harrisonburg Police Department. Applications may be found online at www.harrisonburgva.gov/police or in the lobby of the Public Safety Building at 101 N. Main St. The due date for the applications is February 23.

People who attend the academy will gain an in-depth look at the various divisions within HPD. Classroom discussions, hands-on practical scenarios, and a ride-along make the learning experience come alive for participants, but does not certify attendees in any way as police officers. The knowledge gained helps to open communication and therefore promote understanding of the very difficult, yet rewarding profession of law enforcement.

Highlights from the program are as follows: meet with the chief and his command staff, tour the facilities, learn about Harrisonburg-Rockingham Emergency Communications Center, patrol procedures, Major Crimes Unit, Special Operations Division, SWAT, civilian response to active shooter events, active shooter training, use of force, gang and drug task forces, firearms (with a trip to the range), K9 operations, traffic stops, crime scene and evidence, Animal Care and Control, restorative justice, crisis negotiations, and a practical exercise.

HPD looks forward to this opportunity each year and encourages you to apply, attend and work together for safer communities. More information is available at www.HarrisonburgVA.gov/police.

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