



NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Ashley Bautista, 805-339-4317

2/10/17

Event: Ventura Police Community Academy

Location: Ventura Police Department, 1425 Dowell Dr. Ventura, CA 93003

*May 24 class held at the Criminal Justice Training Center in Camarillo

Date/Time: Wednesdays, April 19-June 14, 2017: Class dates: April 19, April 26, May 3, May 10, May 17, May 24, May 31, June 7 and June 14.

Narrative:

The Ventura Police Department's Community Academy is coming! Have you ever wanted to know more about police operations? Not the 'TV' version, but the actual facts? Here's your chance! The Community Academy will take you on a ride-along with a patrol officer, show you what a SWAT team does, let you experience a simulated firearms training course, give you a look at issues officers face in our community and much more.

The Community Academy is scheduled to begin April 19 and will be held on 9 consecutive Wednesday nights from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. with a final class and graduation on June 14. Each night features a new topic, with speakers, demonstrations, and discussions. We'll answer your questions and give you an in-depth behind the scenes look at police operations.

Community Academy participants are selected by the Ventura Police Department through the application process. Applications are available from the Department or through the online web application found at <http://www.cityofventura.net/pd/community-academy>.

Potential candidates must meet the following criteria: minimum age of 18 years, live or work in the City of Ventura, no felony convictions, no misdemeanor convictions within two years of application.

The Community Academy aims to educate residents on the capacity and operations of the department so that we can work together to make Ventura a better and safer place.

For more information, please contact Civic Engagement Specialist Ashley Bautista 805-339-4317 or abautista@venturapd.org.

"We recently attended the Ventura Police Department's 2016 Community Academy Class, It was eight evenings consisting of different aspects police work, including the 911 command center, investigations/crime analysis, major crimes, the criminal justice system, crisis intervention, patrol operations, SWAT team, a tour of the Criminal Justice Training Center, a ride-along, K-9 demonstration and more.

Chief Ken Corney, the officers and staff gave excellent presentations and demonstrations. We quickly learned a police officer has to be so much more than an officer who writes traffic tickets. He or she needs to be a person of integrity, professionalism, compassionate, fair, courteous, quick decision-maker and a counselor. We here in Ventura are fortunate to have an outstanding VPD as protectors of our community. We highly recommend to other citizens that they apply to attend when the academy is offered again."

The complete press release, including suspect description, can be viewed online at www.venturapd.org

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Dan and Vicki Stowell, 2016 Community Academy Participants

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