



Serving Our  
Community  
Through  
Awareness and  
Education



"I would like to personally thank you for your interest in the Citizens' Academy and learning more about the Sheriff's Office. Citizen involvement is essential to the success of the Sheriff's Office's mission."  
-Sheriff Greg Hamilton

### The Sheriff's Citizens' Academy...

...is an approximately 40-hour program designed to give the citizens of Travis County working knowledge of the Travis County Sheriff's Office and the criminal justice system as it works in our county.

The primary objective of the Academy is to build a better understanding between citizens and the Sheriff's Office through education. It is further hoped that the Academy will increase public awareness, dispel suspicions and misconceptions, and increase Sheriff's Office and community rapport. At the same time, the Sheriff's Office becomes more aware of the feelings of the community from the participants' interaction and input.

The instructors of this Academy are the supervisors and deputies who work in the areas being taught and their instruction will give participants insight into the day-to-day operations of the Sheriff's Office. In return, class instructors receive direct feedback from class participants on the effects the Sheriff's Office has on their lives.

There are demonstrations such as a contraband search by the K9 Unit and hands-on participation including instruction & practice with weapons used by TCSO deputies such as the ASP collapsible baton and the TASER.

The Academy is held once per year starting in the month of February on Tuesday nights. Each class is usually from 7:00PM until 10:00PM.

There are some extracurricular activities that you will be involved in during the Academy. There is a complete tour of the correctional system on one Saturday during the course as well as a ride along with a patrol deputy for their shift as an observer.

The requirements are simple. You must fill out an application and consent to a background check. All applicants must be at least 18 years of age and either reside or work in Travis County. Those persons with felony convictions, who are currently on probation, and anyone who has been convicted for any offense involving moral turpitude are not eligible.

To apply for the Citizens' Academy, complete the application on the reverse side of this flyer and mail it to the address indicated at the bottom of the application. Class size is limited to the first 30 qualified applicants. If there are more than 30 applicants, a waiting list will be established.

Upon graduation, participants in the Citizens' Academy are encouraged to join the Citizens' Academy Alumni Association. Members of the Alumni Association provide a volunteer base who are familiar with the inner workings of the Sheriff's Office and can be called upon to assist in a variety of capacities including deputies' training, special events and projects. Additionally, members of the Alumni Association may choose to be part of the Citizens on Patrol Services (COPS) Program which is a cooperative effort between the Alumni Association and the Sheriff's Office which allows civilians to help supplement the Sheriff's Office's patrol efforts. For additional information visit the following websites:

- Alumni Association  
<http://www.tcscaa.org/alumni>
- COPS  
<http://www.tcscaa.org/cops>



**Greg Hamilton**  
Travis County Sheriff  
5555 Airport Blvd.  
Austin, Texas 78751  
(512) 854-9770

#### For additional information

- Call (512) 854-4989 OR  
Go to <http://www.tcscaa.org/>