



The Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office

COMMUNITY ACADEMY

Presented by Sheriff Laurie Smith

The Sheriff's Office Community Academy is designed to provide citizens with an inside look at various aspects of the Sheriff's Office and law enforcement, in general. Topics will include traffic laws and enforcement, criminal law, juvenile law, search and seizure, sexual assault, narcotics, officer safety, bomb investigation, crime scene investigation, and a tour of County Communications. Students will also participate in practical exercises including vehicle stops. There will be a three-hour class at the Sheriff's Office Weapons Range on safety with and around firearms. All students are invited to complete a ride-along with a patrol deputy.

The Community Academy is a 12 week program, beginning with an orientation and an up-close / hands on introduction to our patrol vehicles. The majority of the classes will be held Wednesday evenings from 5:45-9 PM at the Sheriff's Office Richey Training Center, 155 W. Hedding St San Jose, CA 95110.

The Community Academy is intended to provide the students with a clearer understanding of the Sheriff's Office. Although the curriculum and teaching methods are similar to those used in a law enforcement academy, the weekly sessions are not intended to make the participants law enforcement officers. Academy attendees will have to meet certain requirements for acceptance to the academy and will be subject to a modified background investigation. Participants in the academy will be selected by the Sheriff's Office.

There are several requirements that must be met by all students wishing to apply:

- Participants must live in Cupertino, Saratoga, and/or Los Altos Hills.
- Participants cannot have any felony judgments against them.
- Participants cannot have any arrests involving violence, drugs, or possession or use of weapons.
- Participants cannot have any misdemeanor judgments against them within the last two years.
- Participants cannot currently be on probation or parole.

Any participant that becomes involved in a criminal matter, or is found to be involved in any situation that may result in an arrest will be immediately removed from any further involvement with the Citizen Academy. Lying will also be grounds for dismissal from the academy.

You may pick up an application from the following location:

Sheriff's Office West Valley Substation – 1601 S. DeAnza Blvd, Cupertino
Cupertino and Saratoga City Offices

