Community Police Academy
2010 Syllabus

Community Education for the Education Community

Join our 9-week Community Police Academy. Classes are held on Thursday evenings from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.

The Stanford Department of Public Safety (SUDPS) has a long history of providing a wide variety of services to the Stanford community. In 2005, the Department of Public Safety implemented our first Community Police Academy. Our goal is to build trust and develop a partnership between the police department and the community. The objective is not to make police officers out of the participants, but to expand the participant’s knowledge of the duties, responsibilities, decisions, and constraints that face law enforcement officers. This 9-week course is a blend of classroom instruction and hands-on activities that will give the participants the opportunity to stand in an officer’s shoe.

Week 1:
OVERVIEW of THE STANFORD DEPARTMENT of PUBLIC SAFETY
Participants will learn about the philosophy and values that drive the decision-making of the organization and its employees. They will learn about the organizational structure and composition of the department. They will get an overview of what is involved at the full-time police academy and the required on-going training that law enforcement officers must complete. Participants will receive information about the preparation and work needed to provide a law enforcement presence for Campus special events including athletic events, traffic control, and dignitary protection. The class will also include information about citizen complaints and internal investigations.

Week 2:
LAWS OF ARREST/SEARCH & SEIZURE
What is the difference between the spirit of the law and the letter of the law? How does the IV Amendment affect law enforcement? How does it protect the public? This class will cover the powers of arrest, penal code sections, search warrant requirements and the increasing number of areas of civil liability to which law enforcement officers and police departments are exposed.

Week 3:
ALCOHOL LAWS - DUI WET LAB
What happens to the body when alcohol is consumed? What are some of the laws around alcohol? When is someone considered to be legally under the influence? Participants will learn about alcohol laws, including DUI laws, and will be able to practice field sobriety tests on subjects who are under the influence of alcohol. Will you be able to tell who is too intoxicated to drive?

Week 4:
PATROL PROCEDURES, OFFICER SAFETY, RADIO USAGE, VEHICLE STOPS,
This session will consist of an introduction to patrol. The course will include discussion on the following topics: patrol strategies, responses to calls for service, prioritization of calls, community policing, and crimes in progress. How does an officer stay safe and keep the community safe while on the job? Learn about vehicle stops – one of the most dangerous aspects of law enforcement.

Week 4 continued:
Saturday
Optional FIELD TRIP
Participants will use the information learned in the first four classes to safely pull over a fleeing criminal in a vehicle pursuit situation. Class will be held at Moffett Field. A minimum of 6 participants is required for the class to be provided.
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Week 5
FROM CRIME TO PUNISHMENT
In this segment of the course, participants will learn about some of the most common types of incidents that occur at Stanford. Participants will be presented information on how SUDPS responds to incidents and what the general public can do to help prevent crime. Participants will learn about the process in which criminal cases are sent to the district attorney's office.

Week 6
CSI VS REALITY
Participants will receive a lesson in how evidence is identified, collected, packaged and stored in order to maintain proper chain of custody. Participants will be able to participate in hands-on evidence collection activities.

Optional FIELD TRIP
Take a trip to the Coroner's Office where participants will take an afterhours tour and learn about medical forensics and homicide crime scene investigations.

Week 7
MASS NOTIFICATION COMMUNICATIONS
911 -COMMUNICATION
The class will go to Palo Alto to tour the Palo Alto dispatch center. Employees at the PA dispatch center will discuss their role as call-takers and their responsibilities, which include screening and prioritizing calls, and dispatching emergency services for the City of Palo Alto and Stanford University. Information about AlertSU will be discussed.

Optional FIELD TRIP
Take a trip to the Main Jail where participants will take a tour and learn about the County Corrections system.

Week 8
DEFENSIVE TACTICS
When is legal to detain someone? When is it legal to physically detain an individual? Escalation/de-escalation of force will be discussed, as well as current case law and the perceptions of the public when force is applied. There will be a demonstration of defensive tactics techniques and a chance for the participants to confront a combatant subject.

Week 9
DEADLY FORCE/ FATS
Policies and laws regarding the use of force/deadly force will be reviewed. Using a simulated firearm and video scenario (FATS), participants will be exposed to situations where they will have to decide in milliseconds whether using deadly force is justified or not. Failure to respond could result in serious injury to the officer or the community. Shooting someone without cause could result in serious injury to an innocent person. How will you respond? How well can you shoot under pressure?