

## WHAT IS THE COMMUNITY ACADEMY?

The Community Academy is a twelve-week instructional program designed to acquaint **Bellevue residents and those who work in Bellevue** with how their police department operates and with the nature of the policing challenges the department faces daily.

Participation in the Academy requires a commitment from each student to attend a three-hour session one weeknight each week for the twelve-week series.

Most classes are held at the Bellevue Police Department, and are entirely free of charge to students.

## WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE COMMUNITY ACADEMY?

The purpose of the Community Academy is to develop positive relations between the Police Department and the community at large through education.

One of the main goals is to create a growing nucleus of responsible, well-informed citizens who have an appreciation of the problems and challenges facing local law enforcement. Being better-informed, these citizens can then offer enlightened and constructive comments and solutions.



Another goal is to provide increased understanding of the task that police officers face in their daily work. With better understanding, it becomes easier for police and informed citizens to find realistic solutions to community problems.

## WHAT TOPICS ARE COVERED?

The topics covered in the twelve-week series include the following:

- Evidence and crime scene analysis
- K-9 Unit demonstration
- Gang
- Narcotics
- Officer recruitment and training
- Domestic Violence
- Investigations
- Patrol and Traffic
- Opportunity for student to ride in a patrol car
- Dispatch and Records
- Community Policing

The above are just a few of the subjects covered.

## WHO TEACHES THE COMMUNITY ACADEMY?

All instructors are officers and personnel from the Bellevue Police Department, teaching in their own area of expertise. Each instructor has years of training and actual street experience in their field, providing insights not ordinarily available to those outside the Department.



## HOW ARE ACADEMY STUDENTS SELECTED?

The Bellevue police Department tries to reflect the broadest possible range of citizens in our community. This includes women, men, younger as well as older individuals, and representatives of neighborhood and civic organizations.

## HOW DO I APPLY FOR THE COMMUNITY ACADEMY?

Please fill out and return the attached application to the **Bellevue Police Department, Downtown Unit, PO Box 90012, Bellevue, WA 98009-9012**. You will be notified if your application is accepted for the next scheduled Academy. Remember, there is no fee to attend.

***This information is available in alternative format upon request. Please contact Lt. Dempsey at 425-452-6986 or Sheila Evans at 425-452-7853 if you need any accommodations to attend the class.***



