

# CEDAR PARK CITIZEN'S POLICE ACADEMY APPLICATION FOR ENROLLMENT

NAME: (First, Middle Initial, Last)		Date of Birth:
Address of Residence: Street:		City/State
		Zip Code:
Home Phone:	Work Phone:	Occupation / Location:
Driver's License Number / State:	Community Group / Service Organization Affiliation:	
Why do you wish to attend the Citizen's Police Academy?		
How did you hear about the Citizen's Police Academy?		
Have you ever been convicted of a crime? If so, please explain:		
Please list names and contact numbers for two references.		

**Return this application to:**

**CEDAR PARK POLICE DEPARTMENT  
Citizen's Police Academy Coordinator  
1400 West Whitestone Blvd.  
Cedar Park, TX 78613**

## OFFICE USE ONLY

Date Application Received:
Applicant passed basic background and warrant check: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
If "No", Why:
If "Yes", Applicant is scheduled to attend Academy Class:



## **CEDAR PARK CITIZEN'S POLICE ACADEMY APPLICATION**

The Cedar Park Citizen's Police Academy program was started in January of 1996.

The goal of the Cedar Park Citizen's Police Academy is to increase the understanding between the citizens of Cedar Park and their police officers and police work in general. This is to be accomplished by educating citizens on the inner workings of their police department, which is reflected in the Academy's motto, "Knowledge through Experience"

Generally there are three academy sessions per year and each session will run for 12 weeks. Classes are held once a week for two hours.

Academies will be open to all qualified citizens on a first come, first served basis. Announcements for the next academy are printed in local papers and neighborhood publications, thus allowing interested parties to contact the Community Services Division for an application to the Academy.

After completing and returning this application, the following "background checks" will be completed before moving on to the next phase of the application process.

**Warrant check** - All outstanding warrants, if any, must be taken care of prior to participation in the academy. If any applicant is found to have a warrant, they will be notified by phone of the warrant and informed on how to take care of it.

**Involvement Check** - Applicants for the Academy will be disqualified from attending if they have been arrested for any violent crime or any crime that by its very nature is deemed counterproductive to the spirit and goals of the Academy. Arrest for DWI, most misdemeanors, or traffic violations will not necessarily disqualify an applicant from attending.

**Drivers License Check** - All applicants must have a current and clear drivers license.

After applicants are cleared, they will be notified by phone, then sent a course confirmation letter. This letter will detail the dates, times, and the location of the next scheduled academy class.

The Academy will host a "First Nighter" which will introduce police administration, instructors, area law enforcement officers, and Academy Alumni. The stu-

dents will obtain an overview of the Academy. Students will receive their training manuals which will include curriculum, class description and goals, a class roster and any other related items.

Instructors will be officers from Cedar Park, as well as officers from other law enforcement agencies. These officers will help instruct students on patrol procedures, use of force, communications, criminal investigations, use of canines in police work, public safety interaction, and many other subjects over the course of the Academy. Upon the completion of the Academy, students will be encouraged to take part in a "Ride Along" program where the student will ride with an officer while on duty. Although not a requirement, it is one of the most interesting and eye-opening experiences offered by the school.

Academy Graduates will receive a handsome graduation certificate and a small token from class coordinators signifying the student's successful completion of the course.

Above all else, students will graduate from the academy with a personal knowledge of police work in Cedar Park. This "Knowledge through Experience" will hopefully dispel suspicions and misconceptions, and strengthen the rapport between police officers and the citizens they serve.

### **The Most asked Questions about the Citizen's Police Academy**

**What is the Purpose of conducting a Citizen's Police Academy?**

To give the public information on how the Police Department works, its policies and procedures, through a series of classes involving instruction by police officers.

**Where did the idea come from?**

The Academy program originated in Orlando, Florida in 1984. It was the first U.S. city to start a citizen's academy.

**What was the Cedar Park Police Department's reason for starting an Academy?**

We feel that this is one of many Community Oriented Policing programs that provides accurate information to

the public and dispels fears and misconceptions about police work. Many conflicts occur simply because of a lack of understanding.

**When does the class meet?**

Generally there are three sessions a year, with students meeting one day a week for 12 weeks, usually in the evenings for two hours

**Who can attend?**

Any Cedar Park resident who lives or works within the city limits of Cedar Park. Applicants must be at least 18 years or older and pass a simple background check. Past students have included area teachers, merchants, retirees, and other local professionals.

### **CEDAR PARK POLICE DEPARTMENT MISSION STATEMENT**

The mission of the Cedar Park Police Department is to enhance the quality of life in the City of Cedar Park through a proactive and professional level of police service; maintaining a strong commitment to excellence; ensuring safety through integrity, trust and accountability; treating all persons with respect, dignity and equality; and by building partnerships with the community to meet current and future challenges.

### **CEDAR PARK POLICE DEPARTMENT CORE VALUES**

#### **LAW**

We hold the preservation of life as our sacred duty.

#### **LIFE**

We recognize our fundamental responsibility is to obey and enforce the law with fairness, equality; and without bias.

#### **INTEGRITY**

We accept nothing less than truth, honesty, integrity and a consistent high standard of moral and ethical conduct.

#### **ACCOUNTABILITY**

We believe our actions and decisions are accountable to each other and the community we serve.

#### **SERVICE**

We are dedicated to courteous, compassionate and effective service to our community.

#### **COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS**

We rely on essential community partnerships to exchange ideas, anticipate problems, promote prevention and create awareness in an effort to reduce crime.

#### **EXCELLENCE**

We strive for excellence through continuous improvement, pursuit of knowledge, attention to detail and a vision for the future.