



## ROCKFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT

PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING  
420 West State Street Rockford, Illinois 61101-1288 POLICE DEPARTMENT  
815-987-5800 CHET EPPERSON  
CHIEF OF POLICE

# INFORMATION RELEASE

**DATE & TIME**      **06/02/11 1:05 PM**

**Bureau:**              **Support Services Bureau**

**Authorized Supervisor:**    **Deputy Chief Theo Glover**

**Phone:**                **815 -987-5875**

**Incident:**              **Weed and Seed Area Youth Police Academy**

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### MESSAGE

The Rockford Police Department is hosting 3 Youth Police Academies this summer. Two will be at Patriot's Gateway Center and the third at Lewis Lemon School. The academies target children ages 13 – 17 years old who live in the East side & West side Weed n Seed areas of the city. The Youth Academies are made possible through a grant from the Weed and Seed program. The Rockford Police Department partners with the Winnebago County Sheriff's Police, Rockford Park District Police, Rockford Park District and Winnebago County Juvenile Probation Department in putting on the academies. The academy hours are from 1:00 pm until 8:00 pm daily. Patriot's Gateway Academies take place June 20<sup>th</sup> – June 24<sup>th</sup> & August 1<sup>st</sup> – August 5<sup>th</sup>. The West side academy will take place at Lewis Lemon from July 11<sup>th</sup> – July 15<sup>th</sup>.

The academy was formed to provide a fun and educational view of police work while providing teenagers with an opportunity to learn about a possible future vocation in a summer day camp setting. The kids learn about what police do and have a structured format to explore a variety of enrichment activities. The academy allows officers and students to interact with each other in a positive environment.

Applications can be downloaded from the Rockford Police Department website or picked up at the front desk of the Rockford Police Department at 420 West State Street. Rockford Police School Liaison Officers at District 205 high schools also have applications available. Any questions can be directed to Sgt. Michael Spelman at 815-987-5875 or Sgt. Patrick Hoey at 815-987-5041.

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