



ROCKFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT

PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING
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POLICE DEPARTMENT
CHET EPPERSON
CHIEF OF POLICE

INFORMATION RELEASE

DATE & TIME **01/06/10 12:38 PM**

Bureau: **Field Services Bureau**

Authorized Supervisor: **Deputy Chief Michael Booker**

Phone: **815 987-5866**

Incident: **Rockford Police Citizens Police Academy graduation**

MESSAGE

Rockford: January 6, 2010 - On January 6, 2010 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. the Rockford Police Department will honor twenty two citizens in a graduation ceremony from the department's Citizens Police Academy. Mayor Larry Morrissey and Police Chief Epperson will be the keynote speakers at the ceremony. Graduates and their guests will also have an opportunity to observe the K-9 and Bomb Squad robot demonstrations.

For the past eight weeks, twenty two citizens from the Rockford area have spent two hours each Wednesday evening attending training sessions focused on educating citizens on the value of engagement in the public safety process. The citizens have learned about police related topics including Patrol and Investigative Services Bureau operations, 911 Center operations and the Mayors vision for the City, Community Policing, Crime Prevention, Drug and Gang awareness, Crime Analysis, Criminal Laws and City Ordinances, Identity Theft, and Organizing and Maintaining a Neighborhood Watch Group.

This is the second class to graduate from Rockford's newly designed Citizens Police Academy. The program was designed to inform and educated citizens who would then return to their neighborhoods to organize, encourage and mobilize others to partner with the police to reduce crime in Rockford.

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