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<b>FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:</b>	<b>CONTACT INFORMATION:</b>
	Kimberly Bruce Strategic Communications Manager
August 2, 2016	Phone: 779-348-7331 E-mail: Kimberly.Bruce@rockfordil.gov

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### Rockford Police Accepting Applications for Fall 2016 Citizens Police Academy

**ROCKFORD, Ill.** – The Rockford Police Department is currently accepting applications for its Fall 2016 Citizens Police Academy. The 8-week academy will run every Wednesday from 6:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. from September 7, 2016 – November 2, 2016 at the City of Rockford Wellness Center located at 120 N. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street in Rockford.

The mission of the Citizens Police Academy is to build cooperative relationships between citizens and the police through training and education. The police academy produces a network of informed citizens who can return to their neighborhoods to organize, encourage and mobilize others, and to partner with police in reducing crime in Rockford. The course curriculum includes sessions on patrol operations, 911 center operations, community policing, crime prevention through environmental design, crime analysis, criminal law, and city ordinances, among others. Interested citizens must be 18 years of age or older to participate.

Since the academy’s inception in 2009, the Rockford Police Department has trained more than 200 citizens and has 32 active police volunteers.

For more information and to print out an application go to <http://www.rockfordil.gov/police>. Applications can also be obtained at the Public Safety Building.

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