



*Office of Mayor Lawrence J. Morrissey
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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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August 26, 2015

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Rockford Police Accepting Applications for Fall Citizens Police Academy

ROCKFORD, IL – The Rockford Police Department is currently accepting applications for its upcoming Citizens Police Academy. The academy will run every Wednesday from 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. from September 16, 2015 – October 28, 2015 at the Public Safety Building located at 420 West State Street.

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 success of the Citizens Police Academy has led to the formation of the Citizens Assisting Police (CAP) volunteer program in 2010 and has contributed to more than 9,000 hours of volunteer service to the Rockford Police Department. Volunteers can be an important part of any organization and are proven to be a valuable asset to law enforcement agencies. Volunteers help to increase police responsiveness, service delivery, information input, and they provide new program opportunities. In addition, volunteers can bring new skills and expertise to the job and prompt new enthusiasm.

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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