



**CITY OF GREENSBORO
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**



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Police Re-Launch Citizens' Academy

GREENSBORO, NC (Jan. 27, 2012) –The Greensboro Police Department is re-launching its Police Citizens' Academy which has been on hiatus for the past five years.

"It's time to bring the Academy back," said Chief Ken Miller. "The Academy is a great way to enhance communication between citizens and police to create long-term partnerships to solve problems, reduce crime, and improve quality of life."

Designed to be hands-on and interactive, the Academy's 15 sessions include demonstrations, practical exercises, and ample time for questions and answers. Senior GPD employees will cover topics including: problem-oriented policing, Constitutional law, forensic services, special teams, vice/narcotics, youth outreach programs, and patrol operations. Two of the sessions include real-world experience during Police Week and National Night Out. Participants will also ride along with GPD officers, undergo the challenge of a simulated field encounter using the Firearms Training System, and learn about police defensive tactics.

"We want you to learn, *really learn*, about your police department," stressed Miller. "Policing is complex. As you go through the Academy, we want you to not only learn about police functions, but also think about what your role is in contributing to a safer city."

The Greensboro Police Citizens' Academy meets every other week beginning March 1, and concludes with a graduation ceremony on September 6. Eligible Greensboro residents over the age of 18 can apply for the Academy at gsopd.org.

"When you graduate from the Academy, we don't want this to be the end of our relationship – but the beginning of a long-term partnership that shares responsibilities and resources to make the city safer," said Miller.

The Greensboro Police Citizens' Academy augments the program of instruction provided by The City Government Academy. You may still apply for the GCPA even if you have attended the City Academy. To learn more about the City Academy go to <http://www.greensboro-nc.gov/index.aspx?page=2332>

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The City works with the community to improve the quality of life for residents through inclusion, diversity, and trust. As the seventh largest employer in Greensboro, the City has a professional staff of 2,800 employees who maintain the values of honesty, integrity, stewardship, and respect. The City is governed by a council-manager form of government with a mayor and eight council members. For more information on the City, visit www.greensboro-nc.gov or call 336-373-CITY (2489).