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# News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Third Citizens Police Academy scheduled in Little Elm

LITTLE ELM (March 10, 2015) The Little Elm Police Department is hosting the Town's third Citizens Police Academy, preparing interested citizens to act as a force-multiplier for the department, says Police Sergeant Nicole Shaw, CPA Coordinator.

"There is an extremely high level of value that the men and women who undergo the training provide to the residents of Little Elm," she said. "The time and effort they put forth results in a service to Little Elm that often exceeds our expectations."

Little Elm Police have scheduled the next Citizens Police Academy class to begin on Thursday, March 26. The 14-week class will meet on Thursday evenings from 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at the Public Safety Building, 88 West Eldorado Parkway. To accommodate scheduling conflicts, a small number of classes will be moved to another day or weekend.

The Police Department is now accepting applications for the class via e-mail. Interested individuals should send a note with their interest, along with complete contact information, to Sgt. Shaw at [nshaw@littleelm.org](mailto:nshaw@littleelm.org). A reply message containing the requirements for inclusion in the class as well as an application form will be sent.

"Time is of the essence since the class starts very soon," she said. In addition to completing the application form, which can be either dropped off at the Police Department in the same building or scanned and returned via e-mail, a background check will be conducted. Applicants must be at least 18 years of age.

The CPA can only accept a limited number of participants, and priority will be given to Little Elm residents or business owners, as well as anyone who volunteers for any of the various programs on behalf of the Town. Non-resident applicants will be considered on a space available or special request basis.

"The graduates of this class will be the third group of alumni, and as soon as the number of alumni gets to a certain point, we will begin talking about expanding the Citizens on Patrol and Volunteers in Police Service organizations," said Shaw.

During the academy, participants will be exposed to the internal operations of the department; the hiring and promotion process; traffic division operations; accident investigations; the use of radar and LIDAR; patrol procedures; tactics and equipment; SWAT operations; and the court process.

Specialized sections will cover the School Resource Officer program; crime prevention; community services programs; crime scene investigations; among others. Participants will have the opportunity to go to the range and fire a number of weapons, including pistol, rifle and shotgun. Tours of the Little Elm and Denton County jails and of the communications facilities are included.

"Participants will be afforded the opportunity to ride along with officers during regular patrol to observe actual field operations. This is often the highlight of the class for many participants," she said.

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**ABOUT LITTLE ELM** – Little Elm is one of the state's fastest growing communities. Nestled on the shores of Lake Lewisville, the Town was incorporated in 1966, adopting the Council/Manager form of government. The population increased dramatically over the last several years, growing from under 4,000 in 2000 to over 30,000 today. Little Elm's population exceeds the state average in education and income, and is increasingly trending younger and technologically proficient. The Town's footprint is just over 14 square miles and boasts some 66 linear miles of shoreline within its boundaries.