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# BELMONT POLICE DEPARTMENT

## CITIZENS POLICE ACADEMY INFORMATION

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## **What is the Citizens Police Academy?**

The Citizens Police Academy is a 14 hour program designed to provide Belmont residents, in an academy setting, first-hand information about how their Police Department works. Participation in the Academy requires attendance at all classes and will consist of both classroom lectures and hands on exercises. There will also be a visit to the Gaston County Jail and Gaston County Communications. A ride along with a patrol officer is also mandatory during the course.

## **What is the purpose of the Academy?**

The Academy is designed to increase understanding between citizens and the police through education. Our intent is to acquaint citizens with law enforcement's role in the criminal justice system, and provide increased understanding of the tasks police officers face in their daily work. With better understanding, it becomes easier for police and citizens to find realistic solutions to neighborhood problems.

## **What subjects are included?**

The sessions begin with the presentation of the Department's philosophy toward Community Oriented Policing. Sessions may include classes on Community Policing, Property & Evidence, Patrol Procedures, Officer Responsibilities both on and off duty, Criminal Investigations, Narcotics Investigations, Traffic / Crash Investigations, and 911 Communications. Also, at some point during the session, members will be required to ride in a

patrol car during a shift to see first-hand what officers see and hear, and what they are trained to do under a variety of circumstances. Throughout the program participants are encouraged to ask questions and discuss topics with Department personnel.

### **Who teaches the Academy Sessions?**

The instructors are officers and personnel from the Department who teach in their own areas of expertise. Each has years of training and experience in the subject. The officers also bring street experience into the classroom.

### **How are participants selected?**

The Department attempts to reflect the broadest possible range within our community; to include young and old, men and women, and representatives of special ethnic, cultural and civic groups.

### **How to apply...**

Sessions of the Citizens Police Academy begin in the spring. There is no fee for the Academy. Complete and return the application on this brochure to the Belmont Police Department. You will be notified if you are selected for the next session.

### **Community Oriented Policing**

The Belmont Police Department's philosophy of community oriented policing seeks to create a partnership with our citizens. This philosophy encourages citizens to develop a sense of cooperation

with police in our common goal of providing a safe community for all our citizens. The Citizens Police Academy is a program that has been developed from the community oriented policing philosophy.

The class schedule will be as follows:

- Saturday May 5<sup>th</sup>  
08:00 AM – 02:00 PM
- Tuesday May 8<sup>th</sup>  
07:00 PM – 09:00 PM
- Saturday May 12<sup>th</sup>  
08:00 AM – 02:00 PM
- Tuesday May 15<sup>th</sup>  
Graduation Ceremony  
07:00 PM – 09:00 PM

**Applicants must be at least 18 years old**

**Applications should be turned into the Belmont Police Department front desk between the hours of 9 AM – 5 PM.**

**Application Deadline is April 27th**

For more information contact:

**Sergeant Allen Buchanon**

704.829.4062

**Belmont Police Department**

201 Chronicle St.  
Belmont, NC 28012  
Phone 704.825.3792  
Fax 704.829.4025

**Citizens Academy Application**

(Applicants are subject to a background check)

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Drivers License # \_\_\_\_\_

Social Security # \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Employer \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

Employer Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_

List Group Affiliations:

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How did you hear about the Academy?

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Why do you want to attend?

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Have you ever been convicted of a crime?

Yes\_\_\_\_\_ No\_\_\_\_\_

If yes, explain briefly (charge, date, disposition)

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