

Oklahoma County Sheriff's Office Citizen's Sheriff Academy



What is the Citizen's Sheriff Academy?

The Citizen's Sheriff Academy is a look into the values, philosophy, and operations of the Oklahoma County Sheriff's Office. Designed for the residents of Oklahoma County, the Academy educates citizens about the "how's and whys" of the agency, and the citizen's role in the Community Oriented Policing philosophy. Students are expected to share this realistic view of the agency with other citizens to improve the efficiency of law enforcement and order maintenance in their neighborhoods through shared responsibilities and resources.

What topics are covered?

A wide variety of topics are included in the Citizen's Sheriff Academy. Citizens examine agency structure, division and section operations, training and related law enforcement topics.

What is the purpose?

The purpose of the Oklahoma County Sheriff's Office Citizen's Sheriff Academy is to provide information to the citizens who attend so they may make informed judgments about the Oklahoma County Sheriff's Office and general law enforcement activity. Understanding can dispel suspicions and misconceptions, and increase law enforcement/community rapport through this educational process. The Sheriff's Office, in turn, becomes more aware of the feelings and concerns of the community from the students. This will help to establish open lines of communication and cooperation in our shared goal of achieving the best law enforcement service for the citizens of Oklahoma County.

When is the academy?

The Citizen's Sheriff Academy meets on Monday evenings for three (3) hours. The Academy runs for sixteen (16) weeks and is held at the Oklahoma County Sheriff's Office Spencer Training Center. Classes meet from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., and require a substantial commitment from the student. Any student who misses more than two meetings will not be eligible to graduate. There is no cost to the students. Casual clothes are recommended.

Who can apply?

Oklahoma County residents, 21 years old and older, who are free from criminal record and able to commit to attend a sixteen week course,

Citizen's Sheriff Academy

Standards for Admission

Applicants who would not be considered are:

- * Persons who have applications pending with a law enforcement agency (it is not the intent of the citizen's sheriff academy to further the career choices of the students)
- * Direct relatives of current deputies living in the same household.
- * Persons with a known criminal history.
- * Persons under the age of 21 years of age.
- * Persons living outside Oklahoma County.

Applications must be received at least two weeks prior to the class start date. Once the applications are closed; the selections will be made by the academy staff, with the Oklahoma County Sheriff John Whetsel making the final decisions.

Local records and a criminal history will be checked. Outstanding warrants and driving histories will be checked. Persons with a history of thefts, public intoxication, or repeated offenses will not be considered. Persons who are the subject of a protective order will not be considered. Persons with extensive driving records will be looked at to determine if their reasons for wanting to attend conform to the goals of the academy.

A waiting list will be created from the accepted applications that were not able to be included in this class due to class size. If an opening occurs prior to the beginning of the class, the next person on the waiting list will be contacted.

Please note: If accepted, applicants will not be permitted to bring children to class.

Briefly explain why you wish to be enrolled in the Oklahoma County Sheriff's Office Citizen's Sheriff Academy:

List two character references who are not family members or employers:

Name: _____ Home Phone: _____

Address: _____ Work Phone: _____

Name: _____ Home Phone: _____

Address: _____ Work Phone: _____

Please review your answers carefully and read the statement below before signing this application.

I hereby certify that there are no willful falsifications, omissions, or misrepresentations in the foregoing statements and answers to questions. I understand that any omission or false statement on this application shall be sufficient cause for rejection for enrollment or dismissal from the Oklahoma County Sheriff's Office Citizen's Sheriff Academy.

I understand the information contained in this application is considered a public record and may be released to the media or others upon their request. I also understand that I may be photographed or videotaped by the news media or the Oklahoma County Sheriff's Office during the course of this program. These pictures or videotapes will be used for news releases and information promotions.

Some classes require walking and standing as different sheriff's office facilities will be toured. Please inform us of any considerations or accommodations that you may need while touring these facilities.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

**Return Completed Application To:
Oklahoma County Sheriff's Office
ATTENTION:
Major Rickey Barrow
201 N. Shartel Avenue
Oklahoma City, OK 73102**

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Participation Permit/Promise to Release

Name of Participant: _____
(PLEASE PRINT)

In consideration of the benefits that I will receive from my participation in the Oklahoma County Sheriff's Office Citizen's Sheriff Academy, I do hereby release the County of Oklahoma County, its deputy sheriffs, public officials, agents, servants, and employees from any and all liability, claims, demands, actions and causes of action which I may hereafter have on account of any and all injuries and damage to me or to my property, or my death, arising out of or related to any happening or occurrence while I am participating in the academy. For the same consideration, I agree to forever hold the County of Oklahoma County and said persons harmless from any such liability, claims, demands, actions or causes of action. The terms hereof shall be in full force and effect during the period of my participation in the Oklahoma County Sheriff's Office Citizen's Sheriff Academy.

Signature of Participant: _____ Date: _____

Witness: _____ Date: _____

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Please list any allergies or other pertinent medical information that may be needed in case of any emergency.

Name, address and telephone number of family doctor:

Hospital of preference: _____

Name, address, and telephone number of persons and alternate to be notified in case of an emergency:

Signature

Date

Address

Home Telephone

City, State Zip

Cell Telephone

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Authorization for Release of Information

I, _____ do hereby authorize a review of and full disclosure of all records concerning myself to any authorized agent of the Oklahoma County Sheriff's Office, whether the said records are of a public, private, or confidential nature.

The intent of this authorization is to give my consent for full and complete disclosure of any and all records concerning any criminal activity. This may include, but is not limited to, criminal histories, driving records, traffic accidents, arrest reports, offense reports or any official document.

I understand that any information obtained by a background investigation which is developed directly or indirectly, in whole or in part, upon this release authorization will be considered in determining my suitability for attendance to the citizen police academy. I certify that any person(s) who may furnish such information concerning me shall not be held accountable for giving this information; and I hereby release said person(s) from any and all liability which may be incurred as a result of furnishing such information.

I authorize the release of my name and full disclosure of all records concerning myself to verify past and future applications with other law enforcement agencies.

A photocopy of the release form will be valid as an original thereof; even though said photocopy does not contain an original writing of my signature.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

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