



CITY OF BAINBRIDGE ISLAND

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Police Department Announces Citizens' Academy

BAINBRIDGE ISLAND, Jan. 7, 2011 – Applications are welcome from anyone interested in attending the Bainbridge Island Police Department's Citizens' Academy, set to begin next month.

The academy will meet for 8 weeks on Tuesdays starting on Feb. 8, from 7 to 9 pm, with two optional Saturday sessions.

Classes will be offered on a range of topics, including narcotics, investigations, defensive tactics, firearms, identity theft, traffic, and a K-9 demonstration.

There will also be the opportunity to ride with an on-duty patrol officer and get tours of the corrections center, 911 dispatch center and firearms range.

The academy was founded in 2003, with the goal of creating better understanding and communication between citizens and the police through education. The intent is not to produce civilians trained in law enforcement, but to help Bainbridge Island residents and business owners become familiar with their local police department.

“This is a great opportunity for Islanders to get to know more about the men and women who protect their community and why they make the decisions they do,” said Chief of Police Jon Fehlman. “I hope the academy generates a lot of interest from community members in order to help us create a core group of volunteers, who will offer their time and skills toward public safety-related programs.”

Applicants must be at least 18 years of age and willing to make the 8 week commitment. Class size is limited to 20 students, and applicants must pass a background check.

Applications are available on the city's website (www.bainbridgewa.gov), or in person from the Police Department, located at 625 Winslow Way East.

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