



News Release

Jonesboro Police Department

1001 S. Caraway Rd., Jonesboro AR 72401

Contact: Paul Holmes
870.336.7297 Office
870.933.4686 FAX
870.243.8023 Cell
pholmes@jonesboro.org

NEW CLASS BEGINS TRAINING IN JPD IN-HOUSE ACADEMY

The newest members of the Jonesboro Police Department completed their first day of the department's state-approved in-house training academy on Monday. The 15-week academy will provide instruction in standard police tactics, firearms, legal, educational, technical and tactical skills, physical education and conditioning, community relations, traffic crash investigation and enforcement, criminal justice system, first aid and safety.

Traditionally, the Jonesboro Police Department has sent its new hires to the Law Enforcement Training Academy at Black River Technical College in Pocahontas for basic training. However, with the department having a need to field officers more quickly, leaders decided to establish an in-house training academy, using experienced JPD instructors, many of whom teach at LETA. The Jonesboro academy was approved by the Arkansas Commission on Law Enforcement Standards and Training (CLEST.)

One of the first topics to be covered by Sgt. Lyle Waterworth, training officer, on Monday, was police ethics. The citizens of the community entrust JPD officers to perform the public's work in an honest, ethical manner. As a result, officers are subject to public scrutiny in all that they do.

JPD officers are expected to "look professional, act professional and be professional at all times," Elliott told the new hires. "This is a law enforcement family" at JPD, Elliott said. "Welcome to it."

The chief encouraged the new officers to "get out, work hard, be eager and ask questions" during their 15-weeks of basic police training. Doing so will help them successfully complete the first phase of their training, he said.

After the basic academy, the new police officers will have up to 12 weeks of additional training from Field Training Officers before receive assignments to a Patrol shift.

Class members include Connor Baldwin, Mohammed Pasha, Cameron Hogan, Mary Curtis, Victoria Evans, Christopher Winfrey, Aasin Lester, Jessie Owens, Blaine Middlecoff; Cheyenne Jordan, Porche Hall and Casey Moore.

##