

VISALIA POLICE DEPARTMENT Colleen Mestas, Chief of Police

Sergeant Amy Watkins, Public Information Officer (559) 713-4216 (office) / (559) 713-4807 (fax) awatkins@ci.visalia.ca.us

NEWS RELEASE January 4, 2012



CITIZENS POLICE ACADEMY APPLICATIONS BEING ACCEPTED

The Visalia Police Department is now accepting applications for this years' "Citizens Police Academy".

The Citizen Police Academy is a ten week course designed to acquaint prospective volunteers with the inner workings of the Visalia Police Department while being trained to become a "Volunteer in Police Service" (VIPS). All instructors are Visalia Police Department personnel trained in various expertises such as Police Ethics, Crime Scene Investigation, Homicide & Burglary Investigation, K-9, SWAT, Bomb Unit, Patrol Procedures, Gang & Narcotics Enforcement, Community Relations and Crime Prevention.

Upon successful completion of this course and background investigation, members will be sworn in as a VIPS, ready to assist in essential non-hazardous duties.

There will be an informational meeting open to interested community members on Thursday January 12, 2012 at 6:00 P.M. at City Hall Council Chambers 707 W. Acequia. Classes are scheduled to begin Thursday March 01, 2012 from 6-9 P.M.

Applications are available through January 31, 2011 at the following four locations:

*Visalia Police Department Headquarters 303 S. Johnson St.

* VPD District 2 Substation 4100 S. County Center

For more information contact; Angie de Alba Crime Prevention Coordinator 713-4370 adealba@ci.visalia.ca.us *VPD District 1 Substation 204 N.W. Third

*VPD Mall Substation Visalia Mall – Mooney Blvd

