

History of CPAS

The Newport Police Department's Citizen Police Academy for Seniors (CPAS) has been in existence since 2001. The general Citizen Police Academy (CPA) class has been in existence since 1995.

We recognize the senior population of our community face special needs with regard to crime prevention. For example, statistics show seniors are far less likely to become the victims of a violent crime. However, they are far more likely to be targeted by perpetrating scams, frauds and schemes. Taking into consideration these facts, as well as the fact most seniors are more reluctant to attend events in the evening and may be at a stage in life where they are less mobile; we decided to start the academy by partnering with various churches in the Newport News faith community to assist us with this endeavor.

Currently, one CPAS is held each year, which rotates between each of the three police precincts (Central, North and South). The hosting faith based organization is given the first opportunity to fill the class with members of their congregation. Next, the class is opened to anyone who meets the following criteria:



- Submit an application
- Pass a criminal background check
- Be at least 55 years of age
- Be connected to the City of Newport News in some way (*life, work, attend church, etc. **)

** Exceptions made on a case-by-case basis**

Newport News Police Department

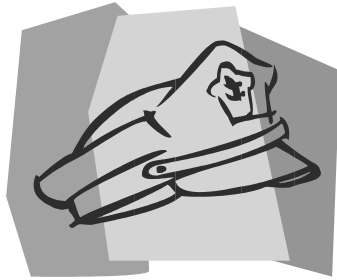


Citizen Police Academy for Seniors (CPAS)



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Citizen Police Academy for Seniors



What is the Citizen Police Academy for Seniors (CPAS)?

The Citizen Police Academy for Seniors is a program designed to provide seniors and retired citizens the opportunity to get a first hand look at local law enforcement. This is done in partnership with area faith communities, which allows the Department to present information in a comfortable, familiar setting for attendees.

Format

The Academy operates for eight weeks with classes normally meeting on Wednesdays (*coordinated with host facility*) from 9:00 am - 12:00 pm. The program culminates with a graduation for the members of the class, their family and friends.

Some of the topics presented may include:

- Policing: Past, Present & Future
- When, Why & How to Call the Police
- What To Do When Stopped by the Police
- Personal Safety/Home Safety
- Fraud, Scams & Schemes

A casual, open atmosphere is encouraged. The only rule is to, “Ask Questions and Have Fun!”



Ask us about the General Citizen Police Academy (CPA) and the Citizen Police Academy for Youth (CPAY) which are two other ways we reach out to the community.