

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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YOUTH PUBLIC SAFETY ACADEMY ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

SUFFOLK, VA (January 24, 2012) The Suffolk Police Department and Suffolk Department of Fire and Rescue are accepting applications for the fourth “Suffolk Youth Public Safety Academy”.

The “Suffolk Youth Public Safety Academy” is an 11 week after school program focused on at-risk youth between the ages of 13 and 17. Students gain hands on experience on what it is like to be a police officer, firefighter, and CSI Technician. Participating youth are mentored by police officers and firefighters, while experiencing the value of teamwork and social responsibility.

Lessons and activities include topics such as how to use fire hoses, arson investigations, Police K-9 teams, fingerprint evidence, forensics (CSI), stress management and much more. Youth will be treated to a rope climbing and team building exercise. Each week, participants are also exposed to service learning, teaching them that they can make a difference in their community. The goal of the program is to provide positive role models, build interest in public safety professions, and increase confidence by expanding experiences.

The deadline for applications is Friday, February 3, 2012, at 5 p.m. The program will begin Thursday, March 1st and through the week of May 14th. Sessions are set for 3:30 p.m. to 7 p.m., each Tuesday and Thursday with a week off for Spring Break the week of April 9th through 13, 2012.

Transportation is provided to and from the program by the City of Suffolk Parks & Recreation Department. Youth will be picked-up from their respective schools and transported to the Kings Fork Public Safety Center on Kings Fork Road, where the Academy is held. Meals and snacks are provided at each session.

The academy is limited to Suffolk youth. There is no cost to participants. Applications are available from school Resource Officers, the Kings Fork Public Safety Center located at 300 Kings Fork Road, Suffolk Police Headquarters located at 111 Henley Place, Suffolk Parks & Recreation offices, and Juvenile Intake. Applications also may be obtained by contacting Fire Investigator Pam King at 757-414-4542 or Detective Joyce Williams at 757-514-7944.

For more information, please contact Fire Investigator Pam King at 757-514-4542.

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