

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 24, 2016



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SENIORS ENJOY SUFFOLK POLICE DEPARTMENT ACADEMY

SUFFOLK, VA (June 24, 2016) The only thing missing Wednesday morning were the sounds of “Pomp and Circumstance” in City Hall as 35 excited seniors graduated from the Suffolk Police Department’s Senior Citizens Academy. Family members joined in the festivities with cameras snapping away as graduates received their Certificates and posed for photos with Chief Thomas Bennett.

The Academy is just one of the Department’s many ways they reach out to the community. The unique program provided local senior citizens with the opportunity to learn more about the Department as well as how to improve their personal safety. Topics during the 8-week sessions, held at Suffolk Police Headquarters every Wednesday morning for three hours, included firearms and active shooter response, crime prevention, crime scene investigation, hostage negotiation, the history of law enforcement in America and Suffolk, an overview of Police Department assets and capabilities, and much more.

Attendees’ comments following their completion of the sessions included: “I appreciate what Officers go through and just how much they care about our safety”, “It was very informative and really showed the humanity of police personnel. I loved it”,

and “I have a better understanding of Police policy and procedure. I respect them more with a better understanding of their job.”

Registration for next year's Senior Citizens Academy will begin in mid-February 2017. For more information about the Suffolk Police Department, visit their website at www.suffolkva.us/spd/

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