



Sacramento County District Attorney's Office

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MEDIA ADVISORY

Recruiting 2016 Citizens Academy Class

Learn about the criminal justice system ~ *Discuss* issues related to racial profiling, gang & hate crimes and sensitive current events ~ *Engage* in open discussions with top administrators ~
Tour the County Jail, Juvenile Hall and Communication Center ~
See a canine and Taser demonstration



2015 Graduates

The Sacramento County District Attorney's Office, the Sacramento Police Department and the Sacramento County Sheriff's Department are proud to announce their 16th Annual Citizens Academy.

The academy was created to improve communication, foster a better understanding and develop relationships between members of the criminal justice system and our citizens, including those from different ethnic, cultural and faith-based communities. Since the start of the academy in 2002, there have been 15 graduating classes with more than 860 participants.

The program provides an overview of the criminal justice system (law enforcement roles, responsibilities and challenges) and engages citizens from all backgrounds in discussion, participation and mutual learning about issues within the criminal justice system. **New topics this year include a panel discussion on sensitive current events and "outside the box" approaches to the justice system.**

Representatives from the District Attorney's Office, Public Defender's Office, law enforcement, the judiciary, and community organizations will present information, answer questions and address community concerns.

There is NO cost to participants. The 10-week course is held Tuesday evenings starting April 5, 2016 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the **NEW location: (APAPA) Asian Pacific Islander American Public Affairs Association's Office - 4000 Truxel Road, suite 3, Sacramento 95834.**

~ Next Page: Application Details & Class Topics ~

The deadline for submitting applications is March 11, 2016

Application Forms: <http://www.sacda.org/communityrelations/citizens-academy/>

Program Contact: Erica Seigny at 916.874.5251 or seignyer@sacda.org

Tentative 2016 Class Schedule & Topics:

Week 1: *“It Takes a Community”* – What Concerned Citizens Can Do to Make Our Community a Better Place to Live

Week 2: The Role of the District Attorney: Anatomy of a Prosecution & Special Challenges for California Prosecutors – Three Strikes Law, Prop 47, Re-Alignment

Week 3: Race as a Factor in the Criminal Justice System – Racial Profiling

Week 4: *“The Big Picture”* – The Hypothetical Case: Anatomy of a Criminal Case From Offense, Investigation, Trial, Sentencing

Field Trip: Sacramento Police Department’s Communications Center – Use of Force, Defense Training

Week 5: Specialized Areas of Prosecution – Victim/Witness, Cyber Crimes, Domestic Violence, Elder Abuse, Juvenile Prosecution

Week 6: Seek Justice. Serve Justice. Do Justice. – Sensitive Current Events

Week 7: *“Outside the Box”* Approach to the Justice System – Human Trafficking, Collaborative Courts, Family Justice Center

Field Trip: District Attorney’s Office, County Jail, Courts & Public Defender’s Office

Week 8: Federal Criminal Justice System

Week 9: Community Focus & Gangs

Week 10: *“From Rhetoric to Reality – Where Do We Go From Here?”* – Building Bridges & Partnerships: Community Policing, Community Participation

***Field Trip to Juvenile Hall: Date TBD**