



# SHREVEPORT POLICE DEPARTMENT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Shreveport Police Department to Celebrate First-Ever Citizens Police Academy Ambassadors Tonight

**Graduates to be honored as official partners in public safety and community trust-building**

This evening at 6 PM, the Shreveport Police Department will host a special graduation ceremony to recognize the 2025 class of the Citizens Police Academy (CPA).

The event will take place at the Shreveport Police and Fire Training Academy and will mark the official recognition of 14 graduates as Citizens Police Academy Ambassadors. The ceremony will highlight their successful completion of a rigorous eight-week academy focused on increasing police legitimacy, procedural justice, and community engagement.

Throughout the program, participants have engaged in hands-on learning with SPD officers and leadership. Weekly sessions have included patrol ride-alongs, a simulated investigation exercise, crime center and 911 tours, use-of-force decision making, procedural justice training, and conversations with both officers and community voices.

“This is not just a graduation. It is a community partnership milestone,” said Dr. Michael Hicks, Law Enforcement Training Specialist and Lead Facilitator of the CPA. “These 14 ambassadors now carry the insight and experience to help move conversations about public safety forward in their neighborhoods, churches, and workplaces.”

The ceremony will include remarks from Shreveport Police Chief Wayne Smith and Mayor Tom Arceneaux. Each graduate will receive a formal certificate of completion along with a custom challenge coin featuring the SPD insignia.

The Citizens Police Academy is part of SPD’s broader effort to build meaningful relationships with the community through transparency, training, and the leadership of the Community Oriented Policing Bureau (COPB).

For more information about the CPA or to inquire about future sessions, contact the Community Oriented Policing Bureau at (318) 673-7300 or visit [www.shreveportla.gov/police](http://www.shreveportla.gov/police).