

September 2, 2009

Sally Ellertson  
Public Information Officer  
141 West Renfro  
Burleson, Texas 76028-4261  
817-426-9622  
F: 817-426-9390  
[sellertson@burlesontx.com](mailto:sellertson@burlesontx.com)  
[www.burlesontx.com](http://www.burlesontx.com)

Almost two dozen residents and businesspeople are now armed with more insight into the Burleson Police Department and law enforcement than they ever had before.

Twelve, including William Becker, Carolyn Daigre, Adam Eller, Nathan Foster, Bo Green, Ken Lewis, Dennis Lombard, Shirley Mayes, Carole Nelson-Meyers, Scott Meissner, Diane Stubblefield and Joshua Van Brunt completed the Basic Citizens Police Academy. Bill Ayars, Linda Brasher, Mitch Duck, Kristy Gilbert, Blayne Hallmark, Maria Hicks, Richard Lamar, Jerri McCallum, Rhonda Melton, Manuel Trevino and David Sinzinger graduated from the Advanced Citizens Police Academy.



**Basic Class:** Front (l-r) Carolyn Daigre, Ken Lewis, Dennis Lombard and Nathan Foster; back (l-r) Sgt. Brian O'Heren, William Becker, Bo Green, Adam Eller, Diane Stubblefield, Shirley Mayes, Joshua Van Brunt, Carole Nelson-Meyers, Scott Meissner and Police Chief Tom Cowan.

The basic class learned about the recruiting of officers, the field training program, the department's Citizens On Patrol program, the school resource officer program, internal affairs investigations, the Texas Penal Code, the community resource officer program, use of force, the victim's assistance program, the special crimes unit, evidence procedures, criminal investigations, traffic enforcement, hands-on experience in mock traffic stops, arrest/search/seizure, crisis negotiations, detecting suspicious behavior, the SWAT team, building search procedures/building search hands-on scenario, and a crime

scene investigation scenario. This free academy was one night a week, for eight weeks.

The Advanced class consisted of students who had completed the basic academy. This was also an eight-week free academy. Those students learned the behind-the-scenes details of the shooting at Wedgewood Baptist Church in Fort Worth in 1999, the intricacies of bloodstain pattern analysis and DNA as

forensic evidence, how to conduct high-risk vehicle stops and serve search warrants, the mechanics of an arrest, fingerprints as evidence, crime prevention, drug recognition, familiarization with firearms and DWI enforcement.

Sgt. Brian O'Heren coordinated both academies this year. This is the 15<sup>th</sup> Basic Citizens Police Academy. The year 2009 was the third Advanced Citizens Police Academy.



**Advanced Class:** Front (l-r) Richard Lamar, Kristy Gilbert, Rhonda Melton and Maria Hicks; back (l-r) Sgt. Brian O'Heren, Bill Ayars, David Sinzinger, Linda Brasher, Jerri McCallum and Chief Tom Cowan.