CITIZEN’S POLICE ACADEMY

“Bridging the gap between police and citizens”

WHAT IS IT?
The Gilford Police Department’s Citizen’s Police Academy (CPA) is a 12-week program designed to give Gilford citizens a working knowledge of the Department’s personnel, policies, and procedures. Each week’s two-hour instruction is comprehensive, instructed by GPD personnel, and covers various agency and criminal justice system practices.

MISSION
To educate Gilford citizens as to the daily operations of the Police Department while also obtaining valuable feedback from those in attendance.

PURPOSE
To provide valuable information to Gilford citizens regarding the Police Department’s daily activities and personnel duties and tasks. It is GPD’s wish that the CPA will increase Police and community rapport through an educative and informative format. In turn, GPD, itself, can become more aware of citizen concerns and/or perspectives from participant interactions and input. It is, indeed, a two-way learning experience.
TOPICS
The CPA will explore such topic areas as: Agency Recruitment & Retention; Community Policing; Constitutional Law; Crime Prevention; Criminal & Motor Vehicle Law; Field Training; Defensive Tactics; DWI Detection & Apprehension; Evidence Collection & Processing; Firearms Handling & Safety; Motor Vehicle Stops; Patrol Procedures; Search & Seizure; and Use of Force. Attendees will also participate in a Belknap County Jail tour, practical officer scenarios, and an agency ride-along.

WHO MAY ATTEND?
Gilford residents who are at least 21 years of age with no prior criminal record who (1) complete a CPA application and (2) are aware that a basic background investigation will be completed prior to acceptance. It is GPD’s desire to construct a CPA with a cross-section of participants from various demographics and career fields. Therefore, clerical personnel, doctors, homemakers, laborers, merchants, salespersons, etc. are all encouraged to apply.

FOR MORE INFORMATION
CPA applications can be obtained via GPD’s website (www.gilfordpd.org) by clicking on the “Citizen’s Police Academy” link or by picking one up from the agency’s Communications Center (47 Cherry Valley Road, Gilford). Questions regarding the CPA can be directed to Patrolman First Class Douglas Wall at 527-4737 or d.wall@gilfordpd.org. If contacting PFC Wall please allow several days for a response due to work rotation schedules. Applications can be submitted online or dropped off at GPD.

The Citizen’s Police Academy is not intended to serve as accredited criminal justice/law enforcement courses, and is offered only to provide insight into the Gilford Police Department’s daily operations, duties, and responsibilities.