



Central Falls Police Department Office of Public Information

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Central Falls Sponsors Three New Recruits for Municipal Police Training Academy

CENTRAL FALLS, R.I. – The Central Falls Police Department submitted applications sponsoring three qualified individuals to the Rhode Island Municipal Police Training Academy (“RIMPTA”).

“If successful in the RIMPTA, our 3 recruits will undergo a challenging Field Training and Evaluation Program,” said Colonel James J. Mendonca, Chief of the Central Falls Police Department. “Upon their successful completion, these officers will increase the police department’s ranks to 39 and increase our commitment to community policing.”

The three individuals will be enrolled in the next recruitment class and undergo classes for 22 weeks. Topics covered include, but are not limited to: Criminal Law, First Responder Training, Highway Safety, Homeland Security, Basic Crime Scene Investigation, Patrol Operations, Physical Fitness, Community Policing, Report Writing, Use of Force & Police Combatives, Firearms Training, Fair and Impartial Policing, Hate Crimes, Basic Water Rescue, Mental Health First Aid, and Domestic Violence / Sexual Assault. In addition to the classes, recruits must also complete physical fitness requirements.

"Keeping our city clean and safe is my number one priority," said Mayor James Diossa. "Even in the leanest of budget times, we must do all we can to give the Police Department the tools, like these 3 new recruits, to reduce crime and increase public safety."

In the last two years, Mayor Diossa and Colonel Mendonca have invested in public safety and fighting crime. While the bankruptcy crippled the police department, reducing the force from 44 to 31, the Mayor and the Colonel have worked together to restore the police ranks to 39, if these 3 recruits complete the academy and join the department.

The City has strengthened its community engagement and crime-stopping efforts in the last two years. Motorcycle and bicycle units were created to have police officers out of their cars and on the streets. Similarly, a budget line item was developed to have police officers walking the beat on Dexter and Broad Streets. To tackle drugs and prostitution, the City collaborated with the state police in creating neighborhood response teams and re-established the K-9 unit. Also, the City consolidated police and fire dispatch and hired two new bilingual dispatchers so city residents can have prompt service for calls for help.

The City created the nuisance task force and has shut down or sanctioned establishments that have broken the law and abused the public trust. Further, the City held numerous meetings with immigrant organizations in the city and revised policies and procedures to ensure that the City remains a welcoming and diverse home for the immigrant community. Finally, to reduce drug use and youth incarceration, the City re-established the Juvenile Hearing Board and placed a School Resource Officer at the High School.

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