



# Stratford Police Department

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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**From: Stratford Police Department**

**Contact: Lieutenant Brian Budd 203-385-4168**

### **Stratford Citizens Police Academy**

The Stratford Police Department is pleased to announce the return of the Citizens Police Academy. In an effort to foster better communication, understanding and trust with the community we serve, the academy will expose citizens to some of the inner workings of our agency. The Citizens Police Academy is open to adults ages 21 and over who are either residents or business owners in the Town of Stratford.

The academy will meet on Wednesday evenings for nine weeks. Each session will run for approximately two and one-half hours. **The first session is scheduled to begin on Wednesday, September 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm at Stratford Police Headquarters, 900 Longbrook Avenue.**

“This will be our first Citizens Academy since 2010”, said Police Chief Patrick Ridenhour. “It was very popular back then and many residents have been asking us to do it again. Unfortunately, staffing challenges, particularly retirements and reassignments, made us unable to accommodate those requests until now. Our staff has put together an informative and fun program. At the end of the nine sessions, however, we hope to have learned as much from the citizens as they will learn from us!”

There is no charge for the Citizens Academy. Interested applicants will have to submit to a basic background check in order to participate in the academy. Enrollment is limited to 25 adults, who will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Applications can be obtained at Stratford Police Headquarters, online at [www.stratfordctpd.com](http://www.stratfordctpd.com), or by contacting Lieutenant Brian Budd by telephone at 203-385-4168 or email at [bbudd@townofstratford.com](mailto:bbudd@townofstratford.com). **The application deadline is Wednesday, September 17<sup>th</sup>.**

