



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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*Sergeant Johnny Williams
Public Information Officer
(205) 254-1708 - Office*

Birmingham Police Department Academy Graduation and Promotional Ceremony

The Birmingham Police Department announces and invites the public to attend the BPD Academy graduation and BPD promotional ceremony. There are 30 recruits scheduled to graduate. The ceremony will begin at 10 a.m. on Friday, July 19, 2019, at the Bill Harris Arena. The graduating recruits are scheduled to start patrols on Saturday, July 20, 2019. Friday's graduation's theme will honor women. City Attorney Nicole King, Human Resources Director Jill Madajczyk and Birmingham City Schools Superintendent Dr. Lisa Herring will speak.

Following the graduation ceremony, the BPD promotional ceremony will commence. Several Birmingham Police Department officers will be honored including 11 officers that will be promoted to lieutenant and 15 officers will be promoted to sergeant.

Also, there are new developments with our latest police academy, which started a new class on Monday, July 8. We have:

- 36 recruit officers
- Four lateral officers
- Two police cadets. These are the first two young people to take advantage of the cadet program since Police Chief Patrick Smith announced earlier this year that he was starting a cadet program to increase opportunities for young people not yet 21 but interested in enrolling in the academy.

Combined, this makes for 42 recruits in the latest academy. It's the largest academy class the Birmingham Police Department has had in the last 10 years.

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In addition, another police academy class is slated to start October 14, 2019. This will be the third police academy held in 2019. Anyone interested in applying to the police academy, should call 205-254-1712.

Four police academies are scheduled for 2020.

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